





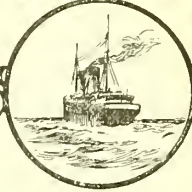
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# THE CHEMIST & DRUGGIST

## MERCHANT SHIPPERS' ISSUE

### MARCH 9, 1912



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## THE BUYER OVERSEAS

The modern manufacturer with enterprise soon finds this country too small for his efforts. He wants to expand his area of exploitation, and turns his attention to the Colonies and to foreign countries. If he has anything to sell to the drug-trade he finds the way paved for him by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, whose subscribers are found in all parts of the British Colonies and Dependencies and in the principal foreign commercial centres. An issue of especial importance to seekers after overseas business will be published on

**MAY 18.**

Further details of the Colonial and Foreign Issue will be obtained by writing to the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

## Summary.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

The coal strike has not disturbed the drug-trade. See p. 96.

How a chemist's ancient shop-front was made new is shown on p. 100.

Mr. C. E. Stuart, B.Sc., of Brady & Martin, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne, died last Sunday (p. 108).

Mr. John Frackelton is the new President of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland (p. 88).

Early-closing movements are now the vogue. See paragraphs on p. 80, p. 83, and in Winter Session.

We have had to hold over this week several letters to the Editor and numerous replies to correspondents.

How the "Chronicles of Pharmacy" was made use of by a "Square man" is told by "Xrayser II." (p. 91).

We comment editorially on the glycerin and cod-liver oil markets. Declines in values are recorded (pp. 92-93).

The Secretary to the Provisional Pharmaceutical Insurance Committee appeals for funds (p. 120 and p. 95).

In the second of Mr. H. C. Richards' articles on National Insurance Dispensing, charges are dealt with (p. 106).

"Pills and Tablets" is an illustrated description of Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co.'s new factory at Brighton (p. 97).

The Home Secretary declines to tack on to the patent-medicine inquiry the question of unqualified medical practice (p. 107).

The cultivation, curing, and commerce of cardamoms are described, with a special series of photographs, in the article which begins on p. 101.

The Coloured Supplement contains a report of Sir J. J. Thomson's second lecture on Molecular Physics, x-rays being included in the treatment.

It is possible for retail chemists and wholesalers to form under the National Insurance Act small societies for employes, which the Commissioners will approve. See the official statement on p. 95.

The Pharmaceutical Council meeting in London on Wednesday was short. The Council proposes to add to the Poison Schedule veronal and kindred substances, and to extend the sulphonal entry to substances akin to it (p. 109). The 1911 accounts show a deficit of over 1,000*l.* (p. 110). The reasons why are commented upon (p. 94).

First-hands business is being hampered by the coal strike, and a depressed feeling prevails in the chemical and drug trades. The chief alterations include an advance in alum, santolin, absolute alcohol, menthol, cocoa-butter, benzols, and soda nitrate. Cream of tartar, quicksilver (seconds), and dill oil are firmer. Castor, cubeb, and croton oils, guaiacol carb., and foreign citric acid are easier. Glycerin, cod-liver oil, morphine, opium, and cocaine (second-hands) are lower. Somewhat large supplies of first- and second-hand drugs were offered at auction (p. 112).



## ENGLISH AND WELSH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

### Brevities.

The Royal Institution has received from Mr. J. C. Simpson an original letter written by Mr. Riebau, the bookbinder to whom Michael Faraday was apprenticed, giving some account of Faraday's early life.

At a meeting of the optical trade at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C., on February 22, it was resolved to establish an optical scholarship as a memorial of the late Mr. James Aitchison. Subscriptions amounting to over 100l. were promised.

The Devonport Guardians considered on March 1 the advisability of separating the supply of drugs from the salary of the medical officer. A guardian said that if the proposal were adopted it would be necessary to appoint a dispenser. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

Organised window-smashing took place in several of London's principal thoroughfares on March 1, the offenders being militant women suffragists. Among the traders who suffered damage in the Strand were Mr. R. Starkie, chemist; Kodak, Ltd.; Messrs. W. W. Rouch & Co. and Mr. J. Browning, optician.

The Colne medical officer (Dr. Millar) states in his annual report that it is a question as to whether the time has not arrived for the sale of the long-tube feeding-bottle to be prohibited by law. In reference to proceedings taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, Dr. Millar remarks that it is regrettable that a semblance of a defence is in many cases accepted by the magistrates as a pretext for dismissing the case.

The Association of Chemical Technologists and the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland have advertised in "The Times" their opinion that the remuneration and advantages offered for the appointments of public analysts in Lambeth, Wandsworth, and co. Antrim are inadequate. The Institute has also circulated a statement to Fellows and Associates regarding the matter, strongly recommending them not to apply for any of these appointments.

### Fairchild Scholarship and Prizes.

Application-forms for the examination, to be held in June next, are now ready, and Mr. A. E. Holden, Secretary, Albert Chambers, 64-65 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., will send a copy to any student who may apply to him.

### Parasitic Mange.

At Westminster on February 29, Alfred Chas. Ailsby and Thos. Wm. Ailsby, who were summoned by the London County Council, were each fined 5l. for failing to give notice of parasitic mange in two horses in their possession. The proceedings were taken under the Parasitic Mange Order, 1911, which requires anyone having a horse, ass, or mule affected with, or suspected of being affected with, parasitic mange, to give notice to the police with all practicable speed. Defendants pleaded ignorance of the order.

### Institute of Chemistry.

At the annual general meeting of the Institute, held at 30 Bloomsbury Square, on March 1, the President, Dr. George Beilby, F.R.S., who occupied the chair, in referring during his address to the prospects of the profession of chemistry, said he believed that there was plenty of room for men of the right stamp, both in educational and industrial work. Touching on the difficulties which confront public analysts and private practitioners, he referred to the attempts made on the part of certain local authorities to lower the status of the professional chemist by offering appointments at a ridiculous remuneration. He also said that it was a false notion that medical men are capable of controlling chemical laboratories. Dr. George Beilby, F.R.S., Professor Percy F. Frankland, F.R.S., Mr. David Howard, and Sir William Tilden, F.R.S., were appointed Censors, and the President and Council for the ensuing year declared elected. The new President is Professor Raphael Meldola, D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.

### The Shops Act.

The movement organised at Margate to secure exemption from early-closing during the season has proved successful.

At Blackpool exemption from half-day shop-closing for all trades during July, August, and September is to be applied for, together with exemptions on the Wednesdays before Good Friday and in Easter Week and the first Wednesday in October.

The following days have been selected for early-closing at the following places: Stafford, Wednesday; Bradbury and Romiley, Wednesday; Hedon, Thursday; Aldershot, Wednesday, at 1 p.m.; Baildon, Tuesday; Burgess Hill, Sussex, Wednesday.

Mr. D. T. Evans, chemist and druggist, of Harbour Street, Ramsgate, is taking a leading part in a movement to secure for the tradesmen of the town exemption from the closing of shops for one half-day per week during June, July, August, and September.

The Kingston-on-Thames Town Council have decided to make an order, under the Shop Hours Act, 1904, to secure closing at 8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays of chemists' shops, drug-stores, opticians', and other establishments in the following thoroughfares: Apple Market, Church Street, Clarence Street, Eden Street, Fife Road, High Street, London Road, Market Place, Park Road, Richmond Road, St. James's Road, Thames Street, Wood Street, and Union Street.

### Contracts.

The Forehoe Board of Guardians have appointed Mr. F. Alpe, of Wymondham, as chemist to the workhouse.

Stratford-on-Avon Guardians.—Mr. F. D. Spencer, pharmacist, Stratford, for chemists' sundries, at 30l. 13s. 7d.

Gravesend Town Council.—Middleton Bros., of London, the Sanitas Co., Ltd., and Mr. A. A. Gillitt, Ph.C., Gravesend, for a supply of disinfectants and druggists' goods during the ensuing year.

The Sheffield Board of Guardians are inviting tenders for drugs for the ensuing half-year from Messrs. Harker, Stagg & Morgan, the British Drug Houses, Ltd., and Messrs. Evans, Son, Lescher & Webb, Ltd.

Woolwich Borough Council.—Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., Ltd., for toilet soap, at 2l. 10s. per cwt. J. Green & Co., for brimstone, at 3d. per lb.; carbolic soap, 2d. per lb.; chloride of lime, 6s. per cwt.; neats' foot oil, 3s. per gal.; pumice-stone, 2d. per lb.; toilet-soap, 1l. 14s. per cwt.; Robinson, Drew & Clydesdale, Ltd., benzoline, 11d. per gal.; spirit of salt, 7½d. per gal.

Bermondsey Borough Council.—Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., for disinfectants as follows: Commercial carbolic acid (98 per cent. acids), 1s. 7d. per gal.; prepared carbolic acid (not less than 20 per cent. acids), 8½d. per gal.; formaldehyde solution (guaranteed 40 per cent. strength), 4s. 6d. per gal.; paraform tablets, 2s. 3d. per lb.; permanganate of potash, 1l. 19s. per cwt.

Bethnal Green Borough Council.—For annual supplies of disinfectants: Sanitas Co., Ltd., for crude carbolic acid (30 per cent.), at 6d. per gal.; sanitas powder (No. 2), 6s. 6d. per cwt.; sanitas fluid, 3s. 5d. per gal.; creocide, 2s. 6d. per gal.; Kingzett patent sulphur candles, 28s. per cwt. Newton, Chambers & Co., Ltd., for izal (8-oz. bots.), at 72s. per gross and at 3s. 6d. per gal.; izal powder (No. 1), 7s. 6d. per cwt.; do. (No. 2), 10s. per cwt.; izal disinfecting sawdust, 8s. 6d. per cwt.; izal soluble blocks, 5s. per 100; izal liquid-soap, 1s. 9d. per gal. Snowdon, Sons & Co., Ltd., for 15-per-cent. carbolic powder, at 2s. 10½d. per cwt. Burt, Boulton & Haywood, Ltd., for carbolic acid (95 per cent.), at 1s. 5½d. per gal.; prepared carbolic acid (20 per cent.), 8½d. per gal.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

The Northampton Town Council's Public Health Committee decided to warn the vendor of a sample of tartaric acid containing 0.6 grain of lead per lb. This decision was the result of a deputation from the local Grocers' Association, which urged that proceedings should not be taken, as makers would not guarantee the purity of tartaric acid. The committee will, however, prosecute in future in cases of this nature.

In his quarterly report Mr. Edward Bevan, the Middlesex county analyst, states that during the quarter ended December 31, 1911, an informal sample of syrup of iron phosphate with quinine and strychnine was found to be 30 per cent. deficient in quinine. Another of strong solution of ferric chloride was 10 per cent. deficient in ferric chloride, while a sample of glycerin contained a trace of arsenic. A sample of white-precipitate ointment taken informally was found to contain 40 per cent. excess of ammoniated mercury. Proceedings taken against two chemists for selling emulsion of magnesia containing excess of magnesium hydroxide resulted in defendants being ordered to pay costs.

At a meeting of the Exeter City Council on February 28, Alderman Depree explained two payments of 31*l.* and 48*l.* made to Mr. T. Tickle, Ph.C., F.I.C. (the city analyst). He said the latter's salary was 180*l.* per annum, *plus* 10*l.* per annum to cover cost of chemicals. For this remuneration he was required to make twelve quantitative analyses and reports on the city water, 104 analyses of food and drugs, 25 bacteriological reports, 52 on the illuminating power of the gas, four quarterly analyses and reports on the gas, and such reports, not exceeding six, on the sewage effluent as the Council might require. For all analyses beyond this number a fee of from 10*s.* 6*d.* to 1*l.* 1*s.* each was paid. Since Mr. Tickle's appointment bacteriological examination in regard to certain diseases had been instituted, and no patient was now certified as free from diphtheria until three successive negative swabs had been obtained. Mr. Tickle's fee was 2*s.* 6*d.* per case. Last year, when infectious disease was very rife, the number of bacteriological examinations was 723. This year it would be less. The fees paid Mr. Tickle included, besides analyses, his inspection of the upper reaches of the river Exe for the Water Committee. The Alderman concluded by saying that in Mr. Tickle the city had an excellent officer, doing good work, and at a salary which, compared with that paid at other places, was favourable to the city.

#### Birmingham Notes.

The optician is becoming as thick in this city's streets as blackberries in September, yet another has opened in a chief thoroughfare.

An important County Court action was tried last week, brought by a surgical-apparatus maker against a local firm of pharmacists. No report appeared in the Press.

Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay have issued an imposing well-bound, and well-printed, and well-illustrated book of chemists' merchandise, to be obtained from their Bull Street shop. There are 264 pages in it.

A fire broke out at the shop of Boots, Ltd., Victoria Square, Moseley, on February 29. A policeman observed smoke issuing from the cellar, where it was found some turpentine was on fire. It was extinguished with sand.

The annual Photographic Exhibition at the Society of Art Rooms, which gives such an impetus to the art, is being held. Practical demonstrations by experts and lectures by dons are given daily. It is opened from 10 to 10.

When Messrs. Bellamy & Wakefield's shop was rebuilt a part of the front was conceded to the City Council on terms, and a graceful corner resulted. It is suggested that a similar treatment of the Edmund Street corner is desirable, so as to give freer access to the University.

In the election for Board of Guardians of the Poor for the Greater Birmingham area out of a very large number of prospective candidates only two are in pharmacy—Mr. F. Barlow, chemist and druggist, the present Chairman of the King's Norton Board, and Mr. Wm. Shakespeare, Ph.C., who occupies a seat on the Aston Board and is manager at Messrs. Hedges & Son's establishment, Dale End.

#### Manchester Notes.

Mr. John Lusty, of London, has some very fine window-shows of his turtle-soup specialities in several of the suburban pharmacies at present. A prominent feature of each window is a large turtle shell.

Mr. J. T. Butterworth, the chemist who has a stand in the various Lancashire and Yorkshire market places, has just had a sale at his shop, 354 Stretford Road, Manchester. The shop is now to let.

A considerable number of chemists' businesses have changed hands in Manchester within the past few months, and several others are for sale. Mr. H. Sheldermine, pharmacist, 89 Every Street, Ancoats, has acquired the business recently carried on by Mr. J. Mills, 69 Reddish Lane, Gorton, Manchester.

The trouble between the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association and the officials at Bloomsbury Square is causing no end of a bother; but on the whole the local authorities have proved that they had very good grounds for resenting the interference of those who ought to know by now that Manchester men are difficult individuals to tackle.

The following is a copy of a warning which has been issued in Manchester in regard to medicated wines:

"The Women's Christian Temperance Association warn the public of the grave danger incurred by those who use beef-wine preparations in ignorance of the amount of alcohol they contain. They specially urge medical men, when ordering beef-tea, to order it as such, and not under the specious disguises, which lead to self-deception on the part of their patients."

#### Wine-licences.

At adjourned sessions the following applications have been granted:

Mr. John William Wood, chemist and druggist, for 2 Barmouth Road Wandsworth.

Mr. W. Lucas, chemist and druggist, Kettering Road, and Mr. C. J. Burnett, chemist and druggist, of Wellingborough Road, Northampton.

In granting an off wine-licence to Mr. H. Carlton, chemist and druggist, 8 High Street, Horncastle, on March 1, the Chairman of the Bench said the Magistrates thought that the law referring to wine-licences for chemists ought to be amended.

An application by Mr. Leslie Douglas Inman, chemist and druggist, Cambridge Crescent, Harrogate, was refused on March 5.

Dr. Yates, who presided at the adjourned Oldham Brewster Sessions on March 6, observed when the application of Mr. F. Davies, chemist, Huddersfield Road, came up that there are medicated wines and medicated wines. Some contained as much as 20 per cent. of alcohol, which must be injurious. Some people call them medicines but he called them poisons. People like them, and women especially drink great quantities. It was pointed out that the applicant was asked almost daily for medicated wines. The Bench deliberated about an hour and then refused the application.

#### Inter-Pharmacy Football League.

The 1911-12 season of this League closed on February 24, with the result that the London College team, who had won all their matches, were winners of the cup and medals awarded in the competition. As this is the third consecutive season that the London College team have won the cup, it now becomes their absolute property. The cup, which was presented to the League by the late Mr. Watson-Wills thirteen years ago, has been the means of promoting keen competition in the football field between the students of Schools of Pharmacy in London. At a committee meeting of the League held on March 1 the way and means of obtaining a new cup were discussed, and eventually the question was held over until the next meeting. The following table shows the result of the season's matches:

	No. of		Goals			
	Matches	Won	Lost	For	Against	Points
London College ...	6	6	0	28	7	12
South of England College ...	6	4	2	25	13	8
Square ...	6	1	5	13	21	2
Westminster College ...	6	1	5	12	32	2

#### From Various Courts.

At Torquay Police Court on March 5, Sidney H. Cobb, errand-boy, was bound over for six months for stealing various goods and 3*s.* in money from his employer, Mr. Ernest Quant, chemist and druggist, Torwood Street, Torquay.



At Worcester on March 5, the Western Counties Co-operative Association, Ltd., were fined 5*l.*, and costs, for failing to give an invoice for bone meal in accordance with the requirements of the Fertilisers and Feeding-Staffs Acts. For the Association it was submitted that for practical purposes the fact that the percentage of ammonia was given covered the requirements in regard to nitrogen. The invoice did not distinguish between soluble and insoluble phosphates, neither was the amount of potash given.

#### Mather's Arsenic Fly-papers.

The trial by Mr. Justice Bucknill and a jury at the Old Bailey, London, of Frederick Henry Seddon and Margaret Ann, his wife, for the wilful murder of Miss Elizabeth Barrow, at Tollington Park, in September last, is now proceeding. The theory of the prosecution is that the male prisoner gave the deceased woman arsenic which he obtained in solution by soaking Mather's fly-papers in water. On Wednesday, March 6, Mr. Walker Thorley, chemist and druggist, 27 Crouch Hill, N., deposed to selling on August 25, 1911, Mather's fly-papers to Margaret Seddon, who lived in prisoner's house. The following is an extract from his evidence:

After the jury had examined one of the papers, the foreman rose and remarked, "The jury wish to know whether there are many of these fly-papers sold?"

His Lordship: If the caution on the fly-paper is correct, I should think the fewer the better.—Witness said that there was a large sale of those fly-papers.

Mr. Marshall Hall subjected Mr. Thorley to a stringent cross-examination, in the course of which he said he did not ask the name and address of purchasers.

Mr. Marshall Hall: Did you know the papers contained 3 or 4 grains of arsenic apiece? I did not realise it.

Witness admitted that, although Mathers supplied him with a book to register the names of purchasers of the papers, he did not use it. He was emphatic about supplying the girl on August 26. Asked how he fixed the date, witness said he did so by his invoices, and because he sold Miss Seddon the last packet of a dozen ordered on one day. Turning over his invoices, he surprised the Court by remarking, "She asked for four packets."

"Twenty-four papers?" asked Mr. Marshall Hall.—Witness: "Yes. I put down the order in the book, and told her we should have some more on Monday."

Mr. Marshall Hall also elicited that the witness had seen Miss Seddon's portrait in the papers before he went to the police-court to identify her, but it was not the police who showed it to him.

Re-examined by the Attorney-General, witness said that when the girl asked for the fly-papers he said, "Do you want the sticky ones?" and she replied, "No, the arsenic ones." When she bought the papers he recognised her as a person whom he had previously seen.

Evidence was also given by Mr. R. J. Price, Ph.C., 103 Tollington Park, N., who asked to make a few remarks to the jury, but was repressed by the Judge.

#### Poison-licences.

At a meeting of the Sanitary Committee of the Manchester Corporation, just held, it was decided that licences under Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act of 1908 should be granted to the following: Thomas Weston and James Malcolm, employed by David Fleming, of Dickson, Brown & Tait, of 43 and 45 Corporation Street, Manchester; Edmund Jackson, employed by James Jackson, of 124 Burton Road, West Didsbury; and Robert Armitage, employed by Arthur Marshall Yates, of Market Place, Manchester.

The General Purposes Committee of Middlesex County Council has decided to refuse the application of Mr. J. E. Cater, florist, 15 Brent Street, Hendon, for a poison-licence, as they are of opinion that the reasonable requirements of the public are already met. The Council had refused to issue a licence to the applicant on two previous occasions in April and November 1909. The present application was objected to in writing by Mr. S. P. Sayers, chemist and druggist, 7 Brent Street, Hendon, who stated that he stocks various poisonous insecticides and weed-killers.

#### Poisoning Fatalities.

Eleven deaths from the effects of taking poison have been reported since our last issue. The death from misad-

venture at Swansea of Elizabeth Jones (62) was due to an overdose of *chlorodyne*.—At Denton, William Clayton (31), grocer's manager, killed himself by taking *laudanum*.—An open verdict was found at the inquest held in Liverpool on March 2 on Abraham Jacob Wolff Samuel (57), manufacturers' agent, Sefton Park, who died after taking some *laudanum* for sleeplessness.—At Newcastle, Charlotte Hunter (40), caretaker's wife, died from bronchial pneumonia, consequent upon the self-administration of a *poisonous liniment*.—The suicidal death of Matthew Tertius Jones, shipping agent, Swansea, was due to taking *prussic acid*. The poison was obtained at the Oxford Street branch of Boots, Ltd., Swansea, ostensibly for killing a dog. *Hydrochloric acid* was used by Elizabeth Mogge, Croydon, to end her life, and a mother and three of her children at Enfield have died from *arsenic*, it is said.

## IRISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

#### Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Applications for the undermentioned examinations should be lodged by 11 A.M. on the respective dates: *Preliminary Examination*, on March 20; *Registered Druggists' Examination*, on March 26; *Pharmaceutical Licence Examination*, on March 27; *Pharmaceutical Assistant Examination*, on April 1. The Preliminary examination will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, April 3 and 4, and the Pharmaceutical Assistant examination will be held on Saturday, April 13.

#### Brevities.

Mr. J. P. T. Timmon, Ph.C., Navan, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace for co. Meath.

Mr. W. B. Harrington, F.C.S. (Harrington Bros., Ltd., Cork), has been elected Hon. Treasurer of the Cork Industrial Development Association.

There were five candidates for the post of compounder to the Listowel workhouse, but two of them withdrew. The Guardians elected Mr. D. M. H. Leane by a large majority.

The premises of Sir William Baxter, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, at Charlotte Street, Ballymoney, were damaged by fire last week to the extent of 1,000*l.* The premises were insured.

The difficulty which occasionally arises over the return of medicine empties now confronts the Ballina Guardians. Dr. Macauley has informed the Guardians that some better arrangement must be made regarding the return of these empties, as there is difficulty in getting from contractors a remittance to cover the expense of removal and carriage.

The liquidator of Messrs. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Belfast, has informed the Mohill Guardians that the amount for unreturned medicine empties has been reduced to 13*s.* 4*d.*, but if this amount is not paid the full amount of 5*l.* must be sued for. The Clerk said there were several medical officers during the term of Messrs. Clarke's contract, and it is now impossible to ascertain who was responsible. It was eventually agreed to pay the reduced amount.—The liquidator has also written to the Oldcastle Board of Guardians expressing his willingness to accept 2*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* out of 14*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*, the total amount claimed. It was agreed to pay the sum named.

## SCOTTISH NEWS.

When sending newspapers to the Editor please mark the items of news to which you desire to call his attention.

#### Brevities.

Mr. Andrew Crosbie, chemist and druggist, Dunfermline, has closed his Inverkeithing branch.

The Kilmarnock chemists and druggists have agreed to observe a weekly half-holiday on Wednesdays from 1 P.M.

The chemists and druggists of Falkirk have decided to close on Wednesdays at 1.30 P.M. and re-open at 6 P.M.

Sunday hours in future will be 10.30 A.M. to 11 A.M., 12.30 P.M. to 1.30 P.M., and 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.

It is proposed to amalgamate the Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association with the Dundee Pharmacists' Association under the title of "The Dundee and Forfarshire Pharmacists' Association." A post-card vote on the matter is being taken.

Mr. Charles Simpson, chemist, King Street, Aberdeen, has been interviewed by the "Aberdeen Free Press" in regard to the minimum capitation-fee for medical benefit under the Insurance Act. He expresses the opinion that chemists would prefer not to be controlled by Friendly Societies in the matter of dispensing.

#### Edinburgh.

The finishing touches are being given to Boots' establishment in Princes Street, and the workmen are busy in the premises beside "The Scotsman" office.

Mr. Jas. A. Gunn, M.A., M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., formerly assistant to Sir T. R. Fraser, Edinburgh University, has been appointed to the Readership in Pharmacology, a newly constituted position in the University of Oxford.

A correspondent of "The Scotsman," writing concerning the late Lord Lister, quotes the Professor as follows: "I have not used water for years. I never bathe, I never wash." The story was promptly contradicted, it being explained that the misunderstanding may have arisen from a report of an interrupted sentence. "I never wash my hands—" he was saying to a class, when a roar of laughter followed. Afterwards he added that he used a weak solution of carbolic acid before an operation.

#### Glasgow.

The Botanic Gardens are again showing signs of returning spring, and Minor students would do well to keep in touch with the growth of "official plants."

In common with the majority, chemists are feeling the inconveniences of the coal strike, non-delivery or erratic delivery of goods and a want of money being the chief features.

Mr. Samuel Wright, of Glasgow, has joined the traveling staff of Messrs. Hall Forster & Co., Ltd., wholesale druggists' sundriesmen, Newcastle-on-Tyne, as an additional representative for Scotland.

Mr. W. L. Currie, Hon. Secretary of the Kinninmont Prize Trust, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow, desires us to remind intending competitors for the prizes that names must be submitted by April 30. The syllabus can be had on application to Mr. Currie.

The staff of Messrs. Cockburn & Co., Ltd., recently had a whist-drive and dance in "An Old Oak Tea Room." Twenty tables were occupied, and Misses Adam and Gibson, Mrs. Grant, and Messrs. Watt, Walker, and Mackay won the prizes, which were presented by Mrs. Cockburn. Then the forty couples tripped the light fantastic toe.

Mr. C. F. Bond, of the National Cash Register Co., Ltd., delivered a lecture on "Modern Methods in a Modern Factory" at the City Hall on Tuesday, March 5. It was on the company's factory at Dayton, Ohio, and was illustrated with the kinemacolor film which Mr. John H. Patterson, president of the company, used in his lecture in London last September (*C. & D.*, 1911, II., 484).

The Glasgow Town-Clerk Depute has issued to shopkeepers a notice under the Shops Regulations Acts, 1892-1911, to the following effect:

The Corporation of the City of Glasgow, as Local Authority under the above Acts, propose to take the necessary steps for ascertaining the opinions of the occupiers of shops who will or may be affected by the provisions of the Shops Act, 1911.

To enable that opinion to be ascertained as to the day to be fixed for a weekly half-holiday, the Local Authority desire you to consider the following queries and to fill in your answers on the enclosed form, and return the same to me not later than Friday, March 8 next.

J. LINDSAY, Town-Clerk Depute.

Queries above Referred to.

1. For what trade or business do you desire to be registered?

2. What day in the week do you desire to be fixed for the weekly half-holiday?

3. Do you desire a different day fixed for different periods of the year. If so, state which.

## FRENCH NEWS.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

**A QUESTION OF SERUMS.**—The prosecution of a doctor for injecting into a tuberculous patient a serum not authorised by the Government under the law of April 25, 1895, has aroused great interest and discussion in the medical world. The doctor was acquitted by the Rouen Court and also at Paris, but the Court of Cassation reversed the judgments and ordered a new trial at Rouen, which has ended in judgment against the doctor. The Academy of Medicine has appointed a committee of five to endeavour to draw up a clearer text than that of the law of 1895.

**ARMY RESERVE PHARMACISTS.**—The Co-operative Association of Pharmacists of the Reserve and Territorial Armies, briefly known to the initiated as the A.C.P.R.T., held the annual dinner in the buffet of the Gare de Lyon, Paris, recently, when the guests included Senator Cazeneuve, M. Schmidt, deputy and ex-pharmacist, and various army inspectors of medicine and pharmacy. The questions of the increase of the pharmaceutical staff of the French Army, the enrolment of pharmacy student conscripts, etc., were discussed "over the walnuts and the wine."

**CONTROL OF TABLE-WATERS.**—The Commission of the Paris Academy of Medicine, which was appointed to study the control of the sale of table-waters, has just issued its report. The following is an outline of the findings. Taken in its broadest sense, the denomination "table-water," accepted by custom but without being mentioned in any official text, applies in practice not only to natural drinking-waters in bottles, but also to these same waters which have been subjected to manipulations which do not modify their fixed mineralisation, such as sterilised waters, and especially gaseous waters (artificial table-waters). The regulation of the sale of such waters, says the Commission, ought especially to be aimed at the following points: (1) Authorisation; (2) precautions to be taken for bottling; (3) permanent control; (4) special measures to be applied to certain table-waters. The Commission adds that of all measures taken for its protection the public has most appreciated those for the supply of pure water, of which it has also best understood the high prophylactic value. Consequently, nothing should be neglected by the proper authorities to maintain this confidence. A few modifications in the existing regulations appear sufficient to bring them more in harmony with present conditions.

**ANTI-ADULTERATION STATISTICS.**—The figures for the 1910 operations of the new laboratory established under the Adulteration Act have now appeared, and prove interesting reading. This laboratory examined in 1910 301 "medicamental products," of which 248 came from the Seine department. Of these 61 per cent. were declared commercial, 20 per cent. defective, and 19 per cent. culpably adulterated. In hygienic sundries, the percentage of defective were 56 per cent., but only 6 per cent. were "culpable," whereas the eleven samples of toxic substances seized showed only four of "commercial" and seven of "culpable" quality. Vendors of defective goods are simply "warned," whereas culpability implies prosecution. The comparison of 1909 and 1910 totals points to an improving standard of quality, but only 42 samples were examined in 1909. It is reported that opium preparations often show a low percentage of morphine, kola preparations are deficient in caffeine, digitalis contains "worthless dead leaves," belladonna leaves, rhubarb, ipecacuanha, aconite, and powdered St. Ignatius beans are mixed with inert substances; glycerophosphate of lime is below standard, tincture of iodine and iodotannic syrup deficient in iodine; antiseptic gauze and cottonwool contain far too little iodine, iodoform, salol, etc. Among poisonous substances, arsenical and phosphor pastes are not uniform in composition.



## SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of the seven Societies and Associations of Chemists in British South Africa, as well as to other chemists in business there.

### The Union.

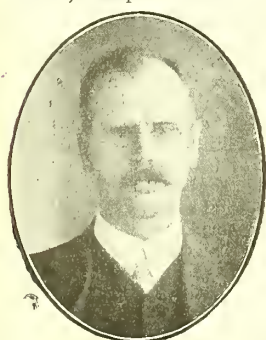
**IMPORTED PILLS.**—South African chemists are once again being put to considerable inconvenience by the Union Customs Department. The Customs Department have issued a circular to the effect that practically all pills being imported are to be stopped and examined. There are two sections in the Customs Act relating to "pills, tablets, tabloids, palatinoids, etc." Section 31 states that "all such articles imported in packages which are not for direct sale retail" are to pay a duty of 20s. per lb. Item 53 of the tariff states that "all pills, etc., prepared according to a secret or occult formulæ and in packages for direct retail sale are to be admitted at 25 per cent., with a rebate of 3 per cent. if they are of British manufacture." The Customs are now endeavouring to secure the rate of 20s. per lb. on all pills, etc., which are not actually sold over the counter. If this is carried into effect it will materially affect many well-known articles. It is probable that a deputation of chemists will wait upon the Controller of Customs and have the matter threshed out.

**SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE IN 1911.**—Mr. R. Sothorn Holland, his Majesty's Trade Commissioner for South Africa, reports that the published figures of trade for the year 1911 afford striking evidence of prosperity. After many years of conflicting interests the four States of the Union are now being developed by a settled people, with full confidence in themselves and in their country's resources and capabilities. The total value of merchandise imported (exclusive of Government stores) increased from 25,900,000*l.* in 1907 to 36,400,000*l.* in 1911. The United Kingdom's share in these imports rose from 14,800,000*l.* in 1907 to 21,300,000*l.* in 1911. Even better results would be shown if the value of the Government stores imported were added. Their total value of exports, inclusive of diamonds but exclusive of specie, amounted in 1907 to 48,200,000*l.* and in 1911 to 58,800,000*l.* The share of the United Kingdom was 45,300,000*l.* in 1907 and 53,500,000*l.* in 1911. Among the decreased imports soap, candles, paraffin, stearin, and nitrates are mentioned, and the increases include fertilisers and germicides.

### Cape Province.

MR. J. A. MATHEW, Ph.C., principal of Heynes, Mathew, Ltd., and popularly known as the father of pharmacy in South Africa, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on February 3. He is hale and hearty and has, we trust, many more years of happy and useful life still before him.

MR. JOHN AUSTIN THOMAS, the newly elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Province, is a native of North Wales. He was born in 1871, apprenticed in 1888, and passed the Minor examination in July 1895.



MR. J. A. THOMAS.

In 1898 he started business on his own account in Borough Road, Birkenhead, but he sold out during 1901 to go to South Africa. After six months in Cape Town managing a branch for Messrs. Hopkins & Co., he proceeded up country, and after travelling considerably started "trading" in the Zoutpansberg, Transvaal. Malaria forced him to return to the coast, and for some eight years he has been in business at Parow, near Cape Town. Mr. Austin Thomas is Chairman of the Parow Village Management Board and a J.P. for the Division of Woodstock. Commenting on his appointment as President of the Phar-

macautical Society of Cape Province, our Cape correspondent says:

"This will give satisfaction generally. Not only is Mr. Austin Thomas a chemist, but a business man, and knows how to control meetings, and he should be able to unravel some of the complications which the Society has recently got into. It is safe to assume that the new President will not allow a constant railing at the Government and its officials during his term of office, and he has already taken a stand with regard to representatives of the Press, whose time he has no wish to waste any more than his own. Members of the Council who cannot attend the meetings owing to distance are in future to receive reports of proceedings, and so far as possible publicity is to be given to all the Society's proceedings. The President will receive every help from his Treasurer, Mr. W. Fick, who was the first Secretary to the Society, and a most able man."

**PERSONALITIES.**—Mr. C. L. Low, representing Messrs. H. Bronnley & Co., Ltd., London, was in Cape Town when the mail left.—Mr. H. S. C. Marcus, who has been with Messrs. Heynes, Mathew, Ltd., Cape Town, for a number of years, has joined the staff of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.—Mrs. Magness Elgar, of Cape Town, was walking out with her little son one day last month when both were run over by a vehicle of which the driver had lost control. Master Elgar was thrown up in the air, but escaped with a few bruises. His mother was more seriously injured, and had to be taken to hospital, where she was recovering when the mail left.

### Natal.

**MARITZBURG POISONING CASE.**—At Maritzburg on February 5, Mr. Wm. Cook, chemist and druggist, was found guilty of a charge of culpable homicide in connection with the death of Mr. St. George Arbuthnot, who died from strychnine-poisoning (*C. & D.*, 1911, II., 943). The jury at first disagreed, but after retiring for another hour a verdict of guilty was returned by a majority of seven to two. A fine of 50*l.* was imposed, no alternative being mentioned. The decision was somewhat unexpected, and it created considerable indignation. The public sympathy took the form of a subscription list, which amounted to 70*l.* by the time it was closed on February 7.

### Orange Free State.

**THE SLANDER ACTION** brought by the O.F.S. Medical and Pharmacy Council against General Hertzog led to the latter appealing to the Supreme Court against a decision of the Lower, which had held that the General's remarks in speeches made at Fauresmith and Smithfield in 1910 were applicable to Dr. Ward as well as to the whole Council. The Supreme Court, in its decision given on February 29, upheld that of the Lower Court, and accordingly dismissed the appeal, with costs.

### Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Province.

The annual meeting was held in Cape Town on Thursday evening, February 8, Dr. W. Froembling, retiring President, in the chair. Messrs. J. A. Thomas, A. E. A. Tothill, W. A. Sleggs, F. C. Mathew, H. R. Peck (Treasurer), J. Sowden, J. Patterson, and Mr. J. S. C. Marcus (Secretary) were also present. The *Secretary's Report* stated that there had been 105 members on the roll last year, and now 100. The Treasurer's *Financial Statement* showed that the Society had a credit balance amounting to 66*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, the largest that had ever been brought forward. All members resident in South Africa had paid their subscriptions. The retiring President, in the course of his address, reviewed the chief events of the year, and read the programme of the various classes conducted under the aegis of the Society, urging better attendance at these classes. The ideal of the Society's work should be studied, and the student encouraged to grasp the higher side of the curriculum. He regretted that the Society did not more freely patronise athletic clubs, and feared that this abstinence is responsible for early rusting of the intellectual abilities. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the retiring officers and committees. Mr. J. Austin Thomas was elected *President*; Messrs. W. Froembling and H. R. Peck, first and second *Vice-Presidents*; Messrs. H. C. S. Marcus, G. R. Cleghorn, F. C. Mathew, J. Sowden, A. E. A. Tothill, W. H. Hopkins, J. Dell, W. Fick, and J. Sloan, as *members of Council*; Mr. W. Fick, *Treasurer*; and Mr. J. Sloan, *Secretary*.



## AUSTRALASIAN NEWS.

"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of nine Societies of Chemists in Australia and New Zealand, and to many other Chemists in business there.

### The Commonwealth.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.**—The proposed prohibition of the sale of Groathead's Mixture is being appealed against. It is believed that the Board's objection is not against the mixture, but against certain statements on the labels and cartons. There is no agent in Australia for the sale of Winslow's Syrup, which it is also proposed to prohibit, and the matter of an appeal rests with the American principals.

### Tasmania.

**EARLY CLOSING.**—When the amended Shop Hours Bill was sent to the Legislative Council it included chemists and druggists, but gave them the right to dispense and supply urgent medicines and necessities at any time during closing hours. Friendly Societies' dispensaries were exempted from the main features of the Bill. In the Legislative Council, however, everything has practically been conceded to pharmacists as desired. This means compulsory closing at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; at 10 p.m. on Friday; and from 1 p.m. on Saturday to 6 a.m. on Monday. This was not secured without long conversation with most of the members of the Legislative Council, including the President and Chief Secretary. All accepted the argument that it is not necessary to keep shops open for what urgent business may arrive so long as pharmacists are permitted to supply urgent requirements during closing hours. The clause exempting the Friendly Societies' dispensaries was defeated mainly on the argument that illness is individual, and there is no more reason why illness should occur among the large numbers banded together to buy of the dispensary than among the same number of the ordinary public, and no solid reason why, if the public desire pharmacies closed, the members of Friendly Societies should have their dispensary open.

### Victoria.

**MR. JOHN LORIMER**, after travelling through Canada in the interests of May & Baker, Ltd., is on a visit to New Zealand and Australia. He reached Melbourne early in January.

**ANALYTICAL APPOINTMENT.**—The Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia has appointed an analyst who is prepared to furnish to members reports and conduct analyses for members at a uniform rate of 3s. 6d. for each report.

### Western Australia.

**EARLY CLOSING.**—When the Shops Bill came before the Committee of the Legislative Council on December 15 the question of preventing chemists from selling anything but prescriptions was fully discussed. One member urged that chemists should not be prevented from selling goods which they are accustomed to sell all over Australia, and an amendment was carried which allows chemists to sell after hours goods which form part of the customary business of the shop.

**THE VETERINARY BILL** received a pretty thorough jacketing in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. The Minister for Lands declared that unless the members of the House were prepared to re-insert the provision requiring the examination of every one who was to be registered, he would not proceed with the Bill. A long discussion followed, which convinced the Minister that it was impossible to carry the Bill as he had proposed, and he introduced a fresh clause giving those who were practising veterinary surgery at the passing of the Act the right to be registered as veterinary practitioners, but not as veterinary surgeons, a certificate to be supplied to these practitioners, to be called a "certificate of practice," which is to state that it is issued without any proof of competence having been furnished by the holder. The measure passed in this form.

## LEGAL REPORTS.

### TRADE LAW.

**Another Gold-paint Case.**—In the City of London Court, before Mr. Registrar Wild, on March 1, Beryl & Co., Ltd., 24 Budge Row, E.C., sued Mr. W. Peters, 36 Lower Church Street, Croydon, for the price of gold paint sold to him. The giving of the order on October 6 was not disputed. For the plaintiffs it was stated that the goods were given to carriers to deliver, and defendant said he never got them. The carriers stated that the parcel had been refused by the defendant as being too long on order. The defendant said one reason for his not getting the goods before January 19, when he refused them, was because there was another Mr. Peters trading at other premises also numbered 36 Lower Church Street. The Registrar said he thought the defendant was justified in refusing to take delivery of the goods tendered in January which had been ordered in October previous. Judgment was entered for the defendant, who was allowed 9s. expenses.

### High Court Cases.

Unless when otherwise stated these cases have been heard in the High Court of Justice, London.

#### SHARE TRANSACTIONS.

In the Chancery Division, on March 1, 2, 4, and 5, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady had before him an action arising out of a purchase of shares of the Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, of which Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P., was chairman. The plaintiff, Mr. Wm. Carter, of Parkstone, Dorset, sued Mr. James Horlick, malted-milk manufacturer, Farringdon Road, London, E.C., for a declaration that 103,522 shares out of a total of 135,000, purporting to be sold and transferred to the plaintiff by the defendant were and are spurious, fictitious, and that the consideration for such shares—viz., 1,941l. 0s. 9d.—had wholly failed. The plaintiff further claimed repayment of that sum, with interest since October 1905. After hearing a large number of witnesses, his Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff for 1,941l. 0s. 9d., without interest, and costs, and also made the declaration asked for by the plaintiff.

#### SOAP LITIGATION: "SUBSTITUTION" DEFINED.

The judgment of Mr. Justice Joyce in the action by Lever Bros., Ltd., Port Sunlight, and Benjamin Brooke & Co., against the Masbro' Equitable Pioneer Society, refusing an injunction to restrain an alleged substitution of "C.W.S. Flakes" and "Parrot Brand" for the plaintiffs' articles "Lux" and "Monkey Brand" (see *C. & D.*, 1911, II., 876), came before the Court of Appeal last week, on the application of the plaintiffs, and after a long argument the appeal was refused on Saturday, March 2. The Master of the Rolls, in the course of his judgment, said he considered that the plaintiffs had obtained all they could expect to obtain by getting an undertaking from the defendants which amounted to an injunction. He regarded the accusations as an attempt by the plaintiffs to force the defendants to stock their goods, and to refrain from selling others when asked for those goods. It was a somewhat audacious claim for a monopoly. Plaintiffs had received as much as they were entitled to, and their appeal would be dismissed with costs. Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton and Lord Justice Buckley concurred, the latter saying that he regarded the action as an attempt by the plaintiffs to establish a new monopoly and also an attempt to set up a right to prevent what the plaintiffs called "substitution." All the defendants did was, when a customer asked for a certain article made by the plaintiffs to tender another article, which the customer accepted. That was not substitution for which an injunction could be granted.

#### A LOAN TO A CHEMIST.

In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, an action has been brought by James Morton, wholesale grocer, Dumfries, and David B. Morris, Town Clerk, Stirling, as surviving trustees of the Chrystal estate, against John Bain, chemist, Bridge of Allan. The pursuers say that they advanced 250l. to the defendant as a loan on May 15, 1901, upon which he had regularly paid interest at the rate of 3½ per

cent. per annum down to Martinmas 1910, but he now refused to re-pay the loan. The defender denies the existence of the alleged loan, and explains that for many years the late David Chrystal, writer, Stirling, acted as his law agent and general financial agent. Mr. Chrystal also acted as one of the trustees under the same memorandum of agreement as the pursuers; while the firm of which a Mr. Christie and the pursuer Mr. Morris were partners acted as factors and law agents to the trust. The defender further explains that he obtained for Mr. Chrystal on February 12, 1901, a sum of 250*l.* as moneys which both parties believed stood at the credit of the defender in account with Mr. Chrystal. It was subsequently discovered, however, that the credit of the defender did not amount to 250*l.*, and it was verbally arranged on February 21 that the advance should be regarded by the parties as a loan made by Mr. Chrystal to him. No writing was executed by the parties with regard to the loan. A general settlement was come to between Mr. Chrystal and the defender in November 1910, at which date, the defender states, he repaid the loan of 250*l.* to Mr. Chrystal, and it was no longer due. To these and other observations pursuers have lodged answers, and Lord Cullen has sent the case to the Procedure Roll for discussion on the relevancy of the action.

#### CASLETT ANTI-RUST SYNDICATE v. LENNOX.

On March 7 an application was made before Mr. Justice Joyce in the Lord Chancellor's Court for the postponement of the hearing of this case. His lordship granted the application and postponed the hearing for a week.

### Pharmacy Acts (Ireland).

#### ILLEGAL COMPOUNDING.

At Belfast Police Court on March 6, the action by the Pharmaceutical Society against William Gardiner, registered druggist, 64 York Road, Belfast, for illegal compounding, was for the third time down for hearing. On the first occasion the case was adjourned owing to the illness of defendant's solicitor, on the second because the defendant was ill, and it was now reported that Mr. Donnelly, the prosecuting solicitor, was unwell. By consent the hearing was adjourned until March 20.

At Castlewellan (co. Down) Petty Sessions, before Mr. W. G. Duff (Stipendiary Magistrate) and five justices, on March 5, Samuel John Smiley, registered druggist, Castlewellan, was summoned at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland for (1) compounding medical prescriptions, and (2) keeping open shop for that purpose on December 18, 1911. Mr. Joseph Donnelly, solicitor, Belfast, prosecuted, and Mr. W. J. McSpadden, solicitor, appeared for the defendant. Mr. John McGlenon deposed that on December 18 he sent a woman to the defendant's shop with a doctor's prescription, and told her to have it filled. He met the woman coming out, and went back into the shop with her. He informed Mr. Smiley that he was an inspector of the Society, and had been instructed to make the call. Mr. Smiley admitted that he filled the prescription.

Mr. McSpadden, on behalf of his client, entered a plea of guilty. He said defendant had made a mistake, and he would undertake not to repeat the offence.

Mr. Donnelly intimated that he would be satisfied with a conviction on one of the summonses, and withdrew the other.

The Magistrates imposed a fine of 5*l.*

## GAZETTE.

### Partnerships Dissolved.

DREYFUS, S., HEYMANN, H., and GAISMAN, L., Palmerston Buildings, Manor Row, Bradford, and Hooley Hill, near Manchester, drysalts, chemical importers and commission agents, under the style of Heymann, Gaisman & Co.; also manufacturers of chemicals and rubber goods and merchants of rubber goods, Hooley Hill, near Manchester, under the style of the Hooley Hill Rubber and Chemical Co.

TIMMIS, J., and GOULD, C. N., The Pavement, High Road, Chiswick, and Walpole Pharmacy, Ealing, chemists and druggists, under the style of Timmis & Gould.

## LIMITED COMPANIES.

### New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

BERKELEY BEAUTY SPECIALISTS (1912), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of beauty, complexion, and electrolysis specialists and operatives, etc., and to adopt an agreement with J. A. Mayles. The first subscribers are Mrs. L. A. Goss, R. S. Dowell, and A. H. Westcott, and the two latter are the first directors. R.O., 23A Old Bond Street, W.

HILL & Co. (BELFAST), LTD.—Registered in Dublin. Capital 100*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of pharmaceutical chemists and druggists, manufacturers of artificial teeth, etc. The first subscribers are S. Hill, 26 Glenbrook Avenue, Belfast, registered druggist, and J. C. Dunlop, 20 Oakland Avenue, Belfast, gentleman. S. Hill is the first director. R.O., 117 York Street, Belfast.

PATRICE TOILET SPECIALITIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of specialists in beauty culture, manufacturers of and dealers in patent medicines, secret medical and other preparations for preservation or beautifying of the skin, teeth, and hair, etc. The first subscribers are J. G. Spurgeon, Fairholm, Witton Road, Muswell Hill, N., stationer, and A. R. Lord, 21 Portland Place North, Clapham Road, S.W., clerk.

NITROGEN FERTILISERS, LTD.—Capital 220,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in nitrolim (calcium cyanamide), carbide of calcium, ammonia and its salts, nitric acid, etc., and to adopt agreements (1) and (2) with the North Western Cyanamide Co., Ltd., (3), (4), and (5) with the Alby United Carbide Factories, Ltd., (6) with A. E. Barton, and (7) with the A/S Tyssefaldene Kompani, of Norway. R.O., Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C.

WINOX, LTD.—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (4,000 preferred and 6,000 deferred). Objects: To carry on the business of importers and manufacturers of medicated and similar wines and compounds, pharmaceutical, medical, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, etc., and to adopt an agreement with Winox, Ltd., and L. Campbell Johnston, the liquidator thereof. The first directors are L. Campbell Johnston (permanent) and M. Campbell Johnston. R.O., 65 London Wall, E.C.

### Company News.

BRITISH OPTICAL LENS Co.—In liquidation. Meeting of creditors at Exchange Buildings, New Street, Birmingham, on March 4, at 11 A.M.

J. R. FAULKNER & Co., LTD.—Report of liquidator (Mr. H. Lusman) at meeting to be held at 12 Westbourne Grove, Paddington, London, W., on March 20, at 9.30 A.M.

HYGIENIC SYPHON Co. (1910), LTD.—Winding-up petition presented by J. D. Marshall, 50 Wigmore Street, London, heard in the High Court of Justice, London, on March 5.

SALT UNION, LTD.—The directors announce that the accounts for the past year permit of the payment of a dividend of 7s. 6*d.* per share on the preference shares, while 25,000*l.* will be placed to general reserve and 10,000*l.* to depreciation account.

WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY (1909), LTD.—The directors' report for 1911 states that the sales in both departments of the business have been records, and the net profits, after providing for bad and doubtful debts and depreciation, amount to 14,411*l.*, which with balances of 1,839*l.* and 106*l.* from the previous year gives a total of 16,357*l.*, compared with 15,557*l.* in 1909. This is satisfactory, especially considering high prices, difficulties of transport, etc., during 1911. There have already been paid 5,085*l.* dividend on the 6-per-cent. preference shares, 2,542*l.* being an interim dividend of 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares, 3,700*l.* to the directors, and 683*l.* for income-tax, these leaving 4,346*l.* for further distribution. Out of this the directors recommend that 2,000*l.* be placed to reserve, that a further dividend of 4 per cent. be paid on the ordinary shares (*i.e.*, 10 per cent. for the year), absorbing 1,695*l.*, and 651*l.* is carried forward. The directors note with much satisfaction the award of two Grands Prix for their pharmaceutical products and Wright's coal-tar soap and other specialties at the Turin Exhibition. Mr. Charles Umney, F.I.C., F.C.S., Chairman of the Board, is the retiring director, and offers himself for re-election.

STANDARD TABLET AND PILL Co., LTD.—The second annual report by the directors and balance-sheet for 1911 has just been issued. The accounts show that the gross profit, including a small sum for transfer-fees, was 5,071*l.* 4s. 8*d.*,



and after the deduction of head-office charges (including certain salaries), depreciations, and directors' fees, 3,218*l.* 14*s.* remains, out of which the directors recommend payment of dividends on the 6 per cent. preference shares, and 10 per cent. on the ordinary shares (7*l.* 5*s.*). They place 455*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* to reserve, bringing this fund to 1,012*l.* 7*s.*, besides a reserve of 167*l.* for income-tax and a carry-forward of 199*l.*, leaving a balance of 1,705*l.* for dividend on the deferred shares. The directors consider the results of the year's trading most satisfactory, being 15 per cent. increase on 1910 and a record in volume. They had anticipated the rise in cost of raw materials, with the result that at the end of the year the stock had increased in value from 5,825*l.* to 7,882*l.* One of the first tasks that the directors had to undertake on the formation of the company was the erection of additional factories, and these additional facilities will enable them still further to increase the business during the present year. Mr. W. H. Gibson, F.C.S., is the retiring director, and offers himself for re-election.

**MELLIN'S FOOD, LTD.**—In the Chancery Division on Tuesday, March 5, Mr. Justice Neville again had before him the petition of Mellin's Food, Ltd., for the sanction of the Court to a scheme between the company and its preference shareholders (see *C. & D.*, March 2, index folio 321). Mr. Jenkins, K.C., reminded his Lordship that the company propose to acquire an Australian business by the issue of 75,000*l.* worth of preference shares to rank *pari passu* with the existing preference shares, and the reason why a scheme was necessary was that the memorandum of association of the company provided that the creation of new capital should not prejudice the rights of the then preference shareholders. When the matter came before the Court the previous week his Lordship suggested that the scheme involved an interference with the rights of the preference shareholders, and that it would be necessary to call meetings. Counsel now said that this had taken him by surprise, but he thought that he could convince his Lordship that the preference shareholders would not be prejudiced in any way. His Lordship said he was still of opinion that the existing holders of preference shares were entitled to stick to their rights under the memorandum. He approved the scheme, which, in his view, was highly meritorious, but the matter could not be carried out legally on the memorandum as it stood at present.—Mr. Jenkins said that in those circumstances it would be necessary to call four meetings (the delay and expense of which the company had been desirous of avoiding), and he asked that the petition should be allowed to stand over generally, with liberty to restore it after the meetings had been held.—His Lordship assented.

**EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD.**—The report of the directors for the year ending December 31, 1911, which is to be submitted at the annual meeting on March 8, shows a trading profit of 42,355*l.* 0*s.* 9*d.*, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, etc., and including interest on investments. A balance of 13,082*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* was brought forward from the previous year, and 16*l.* 5*s.* accrued from transfer and registration fees. After paying interest on the debenture stock and dividend on the preference shares, also an interim dividend on ordinary shares in July, and directors' fees and salaries, there remains an available balance for further dividend on ordinary shares of 13,163*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* The directors recommend a further dividend for the second half of 1911 at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum, which with the interim dividend of 7½ per cent. per annum declared in July for the first six months makes the dividend 10 per cent. for the year on the ordinary shares, as compared with 8½ per cent. for 1910, leaving a balance of 3,788*l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* to be carried forward. The directors are able to report not only an increase in business during 1911 in Liverpool, London, and New York, but the largest volume of business and the best net result since the amalgamation in 1902. The building of the new premises in Seel Street, Liverpool, is in progress, and it is expected they will be completed before the end of 1912. Mr. Stephen Foster Webb (son of Mr. E. A. Webb), who was appointed a junior director last year, returned in December after a successful journey in South Africa in the interests of the company. He will shortly start on another foreign journey. Mr. John J. Evans, Mr. Harold E. Webb, and Mr. Kenneth W. E. Evans, the retiring directors, offer themselves for re-election.

**SOUTHALL BROS. & BARCLAY, LTD.**—Presiding at the annual meeting of this company at Birmingham on Monday, March 4, Sir Thomas Barclay, after referring to the disturbance of trade caused by the coal strike, described the company's trading during the year as most satisfactory, the turnover being the largest on record. A few years hence the centenary of the company will be celebrated, but, unlike many other old businesses, it had from time to time renewed its youth, and is now in a more vigorous condition than ever. There had been a considerable increase in the production of surgical dressings at the Saltley Mills. The directors felt justified in putting down plant and machinery

for the manufacture of Vitafer on a large scale, and works had been started in Shropshire, where there is ample provision for future extension. It is also the intention of the directors to build new chemical laboratories at Saltley. Two years ago, anticipating this, they established a technical research department, with a view of working out and improving processes. In this connection Sir Thomas referred to the more favourable position of chemists in Germany, owing to cheap alcohol, greater utilisation of trained chemists, and better facilities for obtaining medical reports as to the therapeutic value of new compounds. With regard to alcohol, recent legislation had greatly improved the position of British manufacturers, but the heavy duty on pure alcohol still prohibits the manufacture of several fine products, such as antipyrin and veronal. Sir Thomas then spoke in detail regarding educational equipment for technical industries, and, touching upon the Insurance Act, said that when asked whether he approved of it or not, the chemist could only reply that he was waiting to see the schedule of the prices. Sir Thomas concluded by saying: "I cannot close the meeting without expressing, on behalf of my co-directors and myself, our thanks to the staff and employes for their hearty co-operation in bringing the year's trade to such a successful issue."—The report was adopted.

## BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

**Re John George Driver**, 70 and 72 St. Mary's Road, Garston, Liverpool, Chemist and Druggist.—The adjourned public examination was held at the Court House, Liverpool, on Monday, March 4. Mr. C. E. Nield, who appeared for the trustee (Mr. Joseph West, chartered accountant), said the accounts, which had been filed since the adjournment, were not so satisfactory as they might have been, but he had no further questions to ask, and had no objection to the examination being closed. Mr. Hindle, for the debtor, applied for closing, and this was granted by the Registrar.

**Re Vincent Lowrie Wood**, 1 Ferry Road, East Cowes (I.W.), Drug-store Proprietor.—This debtor was examined at Newport (I.W.), on March 2, on accounts showing unsecured liabilities amounting to 175*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* and a deficiency of 94*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* He attributed his failure to depression in trade, pressure by creditors, and want of capital. He was formerly in partnership with his late brother in Clarence Road, East Cowes, and also took over the business of Mr. J. M. Ratsey, chemist and druggist, Castle Street, East Cowes. Two years ago he closed both these shops and opened at Ferry Road. His profits for the last three years were 90*l.* and his turnover about 270*l.* The examination was closed.

**Re Arthur Stafford Slater**, 35 Perry Vale, Forest Hill, Chemist and Druggist, managing director of A. S. Richards & Co., Ltd.—This debtor has filed a statement of affairs showing gross liabilities amounting to 686*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*, of which 467*l.* 10*s.* is due to unsecured creditors and 49*l.* 10*s.* to fully-secured creditors. The assets (consisting of cash in hand, etc., 10*l.* 9*s.*; stock-in-trade, which cost 250*l.*, 75*l.*; trade fixtures, fittings, utensils, etc., 50*l.*; life policies, 12*l.*; prescription and formula books, 10*l.*) are valued at 157*l.* 9*s.* Good book debts are expected to produce 8*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, and doubtful and bad of the face value of 7*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* are estimated to produce 6*s.* 9*d.*, thus making the total assets 166*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* The claims of the preferential creditors, amounting to 25*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, payable in full, reduce the assets to 141*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*, making the net deficiency 470*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* Debtor ascribes his failure to "commencing business on borrowed money, insufficient profits to pay expenses, and ill-health."

**Re Mrs. Annie M. Cahill**, Medical Hall, Newcastle West, co. Limerick.—In the bankruptcy division of the King's Bench Division, Dublin High Court, on March 1, Mr. Justice Wylie held a sitting for examination of witnesses in this matter, mainly in relation to a policy of assurance on the bankrupt's life, which, it was alleged, she had sold to her brother, William Cahill, under value. Mr. Robert Doyle, K.C. (instructed by Mr. Eugene Collins) appeared for the assignees; Mr. Seales, solicitor, appeared for the witnesses. The bankrupt was examined, and said she paid in eight years 60*l.* to her daughter out of a salary of 20*l.* a year for assisting her in her business. She had also paid various other sums out of moneys lent to her by her brother. She had sold to him the policy of assurance on her own life. She was afraid she could not keep it. The policy was for 300*l.* with the Sun Assurance Co., subject to the annual premium of 15*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* Mr. William Cahill, the brother, examined by Mr. Doyle, K.C., said she owed him over 200*l.*, and detailed the circumstances. He was willing to give back the policy for 105*l.* 15*s.* and his costs of the arrangement. His Lordship adjourned the matter *sine die*.



## Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

THE annual meeting of this Society was held on February 29 in the rooms of the Society, 11 Waring Street, Belfast. The retiring President, Mr. Robt. Cambridge, occupied the chair, and among those present were Messrs. Samuel Gibson, J.P., John Frackelton, W. J. Gibson, Wm. Martin, J. Walsh, J. D. Carse, Horace Haslett (Messrs. J. & J. Haslett), D. Manson, J. Macauley, S. Nevin, S. Suffern, W. H. McBride, F. Lindsay, W. E. Wilson (J. & J. Haslett), Alex. M. Gamble (Shaw & Jamison), Thos. Mitchell, Jas. Guthrie, W. H. R. Orr, S. McDowell, W. Haslett, D. O. Perry, Jas. Moffett, A. W. Stevenson, Geo. Johnston, W. J. Rankin, jun., and M. W. E. Frackelton. Previous to the business meeting a *conversazione* was held, the lady friends of the members being present in large numbers. The social reunion provided was most enjoyable in every respect, and after tea the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. J. Rankin) read the minutes of the last annual meeting, which were adopted.

### ANNUAL REPORT.

The Secretary then read the annual report, which was as follows:

The membership roll has been well maintained and increased by the addition of twelve names, and might be still further increased by a little effort on behalf of the committee. The committee met, as usual, frequently, and other special and general meetings were held in the interests of the trade. The committee have been actively engaged during the year, and devoted much time to several measures before Parliament that interested the members. The Shops Bill was passed, much modified, and comes into force in May. Its objects are to limit the working hours in shops, and provide that all employes are to have a half-holiday in each week. A meeting will be held shortly to discuss the provisions and take counsel as to the best means of carrying out the Act. The advertising in the Society's rooms has been well looked after by Mr. Frackelton, who takes charge of this department, and he reports that the revenue has been well maintained. Mr. S. Gibson has represented the Society on the Chamber of Commerce during 1911. The Society exists for the purpose of protecting and advancing the interests of the drug trade, and all in business should be connected and so help the committee in their efforts on behalf of the members.

### THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Mr. S. Gibson submitted this. It showed a substantial balance in hand. He also presented the financial report in connection with the Haslett Memorial Fund, in which there also was a good balance on the credit side. Mr. Rankin read a letter of thanks from Mr. Robert Tackaberry Burns, Ballinamore, co. Leitrim, the winner of the Haslett Memorial medal.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the reports, said these are necessarily greatly condensed, and represented but a small portion of the year's proceedings. Who could have imagined, he said, that when twelve months ago they were congratulating themselves on the peaceful and prosperous outlook for the trade, they were on the eve of the greatest crisis that had occurred since their Society was called into existence—a crisis that threatened their very extinction—but which, through the energetic measures that were promptly taken, was averted, and he believed the Society was largely responsible for the Government omitting or excluding the medical-benefits clause as regarded Ireland from the National Insurance Act. (Hear, hear.) As President of the Society he had received much criticism about the action taken, and he took the opportunity of stating that the committee were never hostile to the medical-benefits clause. The fact was quite the reverse, for what they earnestly endeavoured to bring about was a clause safeguarding the interests of the 800 registered druggists in Ireland which would otherwise have been considerably damaged. (Applause.) The committee placed a clear and concise statement of their position and views before the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and other leaders, and all the Irish members of Parliament, a number of whom were interviewed, also

intervened. A deputation was sent to Dublin to confer with the President of the Local Government Board, and besides, through the provincial members, influence was brought to bear upon Parliamentary representatives. The progress of the Shops Act had been carefully watched. The committee have also discussed and watched the Poisons and Pharmacy Bill introduced into the House of Commons by Captain Craig. Many other matters of local interest pertaining to the trade have received careful consideration. He trusted the verdict on the year's work would be that something had not only been attempted, but that something had been done.

Mr. W. E. Wilson formally seconded, and the reports were unanimously adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The Chairman proposed that Mr. John Frackelton be appointed President for the ensuing twelve months. Mr. Wm.

Martin, in seconding, said the honour should have been given to Mr. Frackelton some time ago. The election was agreed to unanimously. Mr. Frackelton, on taking the chair, said he did not intend to make any lavish promises concerning the future, but he thought they might develop the social element a little more, especially during the summer months, in connection with the half-holiday. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Rankin moved and Mr. Moffett seconded the appointment of the following: Messrs. Wm. Jamison, M.C.P.S.I., Samuel Gibson, Wm. McMullan, Wm. Haslett, Jacob Walsh, Samuel Suffern, Samuel McDowell, and Robert Cambridge as Vice-Presidents, which was agreed to. Mr. Wm. Haslett proposed the reappointment of Mr. W. J. Rankin and Mr. R. A. Jamison as Hon. Secretaries and Mr. W. J. Gibson as Treasurer. The resolution was agreed to. The following were then appointed the committee: Messrs. W. J. Busby, F. A. Boyle, Wm. Doig, Jas. Guthrie, John Gray, A. R. Hogg, Geo. Johnston, Wm. Martin, Hugh Marshall, Jos. Moffett, D. Manson, J. Macauley, Samuel Nevin, W. H. R. Orr, Jas. Richardson, F. W. Reynolds, Robt. Spence, W. E. Wilson, and Thos. Mitchell. Mr. W. J. Busby and Mr. Alex. M. Gamble were appointed auditors. Mr. S. Gibson, J.P., was re-elected representative of the Society on the Belfast Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Rankin mentioned that after the last meeting Mr. Gamble wrote suggesting that business meetings should be separated from the annual social gathering, but the committee concluded that members would not care to attend on two nights in the same week, so they had adhered to the old custom of combining the annual meeting with the *conversazione*, and he was glad to note the large attendance.

Mr. S. Gibson proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring President, which Mr. Wm. Haslett seconded, and Mr. Cambridge briefly acknowledged, mentioning the valuable assistance rendered to the Society and himself by the Hon. Secretaries and also to Mr. Frackelton, to whose indomitable energy they were largely indebted for that hall and its upkeep, and to whom the success of the social evening at the Shaftesbury Café in November last was due in a great measure.

A programme of music was gone through, and the proceedings concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.



MR. JOHN FRACKELTON,

The new President, has been connected with the Society for many years. The social side has been developed largely through his instrumentality. It was mainly through his efforts that the Society obtained its new rooms in Waring Street. He has also helped greatly in the work of putting the Society on a sound financial footing.

JAVA QUININE.—The shipments of Java quinine for 1911 were 4,414 cases, against 3,851 cases for 1910.



## Society of Chemical Industry.

A MEETING of the London Section was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on March 4, when Mr. E. Grant Hooper occupied the chair. The Chairman announced that, in accordance with the by-laws, the following members of the committee retire this year: Mr. W. J. Dibdin, Mr. W. P. Dreaper, Mr. de Mosenenthal, Mr. J. G. Parker, and Dr. F. B. Power. Nominations to fill the vacancies must be received by the Secretary on March 18 at the latest.

### THE PHOTOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY.

Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees read a paper with this title. He said it is a branch of chemical industry which has evolved a complete technique, and is a secret industry, as the processes and result of researches are never published. The manufacture is mostly carried on in temperate regions, but centralisation is less marked than in other industries. As a rule the works continue in positions where they were started, the chief factories being in London, Rochester (N.Y.), and Lyons. In the early days the industry was a purely domestic one worked by the owner and his family, and to this day small factories are the backbone of the industry, although, added the lecturer, the days of the small factory are practically over. To give an idea of the extent of the industry, it was mentioned that one factory orders potassium bromide in 30-ton lots, and that one company is the largest user of silver next to the Mint in this country. The daily output of plates and paper is many acres and miles. One manufacturer gave up making a brand of photographic paper containing fucus because the world's supply of the seaweed was insufficient. The photographic industry is based on colloidal chemistry, and the problem of erecting factories is comparatively simple. No provision need be made for light, but pure dust-free air and appliances for heating and cooling must be provided. An outline of the preparation of the photographic emulsion was then given. A di-molecular or quinti-molecular silver salt is added to a gelatin solution to form a colloidal suspension. When mixed the emulsion is transparent and of a reddish colour; this changes to white—"goes-over" in plate-makers' parlance—and becomes of a bluer tint, the differences being due to the size of the crystalline agglomerate silver grains. (A "grain," it was afterwards explained, measures about  $\frac{1}{1000}$  nm.) Photographic papers are of two main kinds: the printing-out paper, in which silver chloride is precipitated in gelatin or collodion, and the bromide paper, in which plate-emulsion is applied to paper and the image is developed. The colour of P.O.P. after exposure to light is influenced by the size of the silver grains, and is also modified by toning with gold or platinum. Dr. Mees then dealt with the factory organisation, taking first the operations involved in making papers. There is only one factory in this country which coats its own paper with baryta, the other manufacturers purchasing it ready prepared. An illustration was shown of a commercial coating-machine, and attention drawn to the way the paper is hung up in festoons and dried. It takes the paper two and a-half hours to travel from the coater to the stage at which it is quite dry. Regarding the manufacture of dry-plates, it was stated that the best sheet-glass is employed, the greater part coming from Belgium. The glass employed is picked out by the manufacturers, being about a fourth of the output, and the rest is used for glazing windows. It costs 2½d. per square foot, and is supplied in cases of two gross sheets, of a size that can be cut up into standard sizes without waste. The smallest plates that are coated are whole-plates, which cut up into four quarter-plates. The first stage is cleaning the glass, which is done by machinery, the plates passing between rubber rollers and revolving brushes, and being sprayed on both sides with solution of sodium hydrate, followed by copious washing with water. Next the plates are coated with a substratum consisting of gelatin and chrome alum, the purpose being to secure adhesion of the sensitive film and prevent frilling. The plates are passed over heated rollers, and then examined individually for defects. Again the lecturer touched on

the question of the manufacture of the emulsion. Silver iodide, he said, is an important constituent of negative emulsion and silver chloride in gas-light paper. The sensitiveness of the emulsion is increased by "ripening"—i.e., digesting at a high temperature, or at a lower temperature in the presence of ammonia. Both methods have their special applications. The emulsion is allowed to set, and is then squeezed by a hydraulic press through a metal plate perforated with fine holes. When in this shredded condition the emulsion is washed, drained, and then melted for use in the coating-machine. A machine much used is that of Dr. Smith, of Zurich. The emulsion flows from a jar placed over the machine to a pool, the edge of which is called the weir. The glass plates are taken along on felt bands supported by silver rollers, and after the plates are coated they encounter rollers filled with ice, the effect of which is to set the gelatin. The plates are next dried, and by machinery cut up into standard size. A slide of the Monroe cutter was shown on the screen and its working explained, the machine being practically automatic in action. The plates are finally examined in red light for defects, and packed. The methods of testing plates were then indicated. In the early days plates from each batch were exposed in a studio and developed, but this has now been replaced by instrumental tests. Paper, however, is still tested by the prints obtained from a standard negative. Warneke's sensitometer was the first to be employed in plate-testing, and is still used as a rough method, but Hürter and Driffeld's sensitometer is now the standard instrument. The lecturer explained that the lack of uniformity of plate speeds is due partly to the fact that lights which are photometrically equal are not necessarily so photographically. The need for a standard illuminant is sorely felt. Dr. Mees employs an acetylene-flame. Martin's photometer and Hilger's spectrograph, the most modern types, received detailed descriptions, and their working was explained, the instruments being before the meeting. Dr. Mees showed his wedge spectrograph, which he has devised for testing colour-plates.

The discussion brought out several interesting points. Mr. Spiller gave some reminiscences of his early efforts in collaboration with Sir William Crookes to make collodion plates which would keep. He inquired whether the chrome alum in the substratum affects the sensitive layer, the proportions of bromide, chloride, and iodide used in plates, and whether the red light affects adversely the workers. Professor Bottomley was enthusiastic as to the mechanical perfection of modern plates. Mr. W. F. Reid mentioned that working forty years ago in the laboratory of Helmholtz, at the time when that physicist devised his ophthalmometer, he learnt the curious fact that, although the human eye will take an impression in the millionth of a second, it cannot form a picture in less than one-fiftieth second. This shows that the figure must be developed in the eye after the light has been withdrawn. He also mentioned experiments with dry-plates, in which light-absorbing substances, such as thorium, were added, with a view to shortening the exposure. With such plates it should be possible to expose them over and over again, if they were put away for a time to recover from the light-impression they had received. Dr. Mees, in reply, said the fact that a little chrome alum diffuses into the sensitive film is of no account, as the emulsion already contains that chemical. From 2 to 5 per cent. of silver iodide is used in negative emulsion with silver bromide, but no chloride. In regard to the function of the substratum, the lecturer's idea is that the plates should not be cleaned too much. It may be also that the use of sodium hydrate in the cleaning-machines produces a slight etching of the surface of the glass which enables it better to retain the substratum. Film substratums are the secrets of the manufacturers. Red light does not affect injuriously the eyes of the workers, but the eyes become more sensitive in the dark. It is not, he pointed out, the expansion of the iris which alone accounts for the power of seeing in dim light, because there is an almost instant alteration of the iris on going into the dark, whereas the sensitiveness of the retina increases for some fifteen minutes. With dry-plate workers the period of growing sensitiveness is considerably shortened.

## NEW BOOKS.

Any of these books printed in the United Kingdom can be supplied, at the published price, to "C. & D." subscribers on application (with remittance) to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. These notes do not exclude subsequent reviews.

Bidwell, E. *The History of Fire-making: A Catalogue of an Illustrative Exhibit consisting of Specimens Selected from the Collection formed by Edward Bidwell. Shown in the Science Section of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition at Shepherd's Bush, London, 1910.* 8 $\frac{3}{4}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 19, with twenty-seven illustrations. 1s. net. (Janson, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.) [The contents of the booklet can be gathered from the title. Of interest to chemists is the section enumerating the early chemical methods of producing fire, and the fact that the inventor of friction matches was John Walker, a chemist at Stockton-on-Tees. Evidence of the latter fact is contained in entries in Walker's day-book, still extant.]

Fischer, L. *Diseases of Infancy and Childhood: Their Dietetic, Hygienic, and Medical Treatment.* 4th edit. 3vo. 27s. 6d. net. (S. Phillips.)

Nicholson, E. *Men and Measures: A History of Weights and Measures, Ancient and Modern.* 8 $\frac{1}{4}$  x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Pp. 313. 7s. 6d. net. (Smith, Elder & Co., London.) [Deals with the subject historically, and shows the reasons why the English system of weights and measures has survived dangerous perturbations in the past. The author takes the Spencerian view of the attempts that are being made to compel an unwilling business world to discard the present system.]

Scott, E. Erskine. *Tables of Logarithms and Antilogarithms.* 9 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 384. 5s. net. Students' edition. (C. & E. Layton.) [Gives five figures for all numbers between 1 and 100,000. A particularly good feature of this book is the printing of the antilogarithms on a pale green paper, thus clearly separating them from the logarithms.]



We are indebted to the President of this Society for lending the original of the above for reproduction. He informs us that "only one certificate will be issued to each member. Those having branch shops and desirous of exhibiting a certificate in each shop can only do so through their managers becoming members, who must fulfil the conditions set out in the application-forms. It has been found necessary strictly to adhere to this regulation, not with a view of increasing the membership, but with the object of preventing any trading in the certificates." The original measures about 20 in. by 12 in. The Secretary of the Society is Mr. N. D. Vine, 5 Oxford Place, Leeds.



Postal Address:

C. & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICS LONDON."

Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

## INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries:

- 100/21. "Lichnoids": supply.
- 96/47. "Chameleon" fly-paste.
- 100/33. Iodoarsylene ampoules.
- 97/48. "Cornutine" corn-plaster.
- 100/35. "Eureka" ink-stain remover.
- 97/57. "Orotone" antiseptic pastilles.
- 99/17. "Felema," or "Feluna" pills.
- 95/67. "O. V. B." safety razor: supply.
- 95/95. "Arabi" Egyptian henna.
- 94/23. "Vacoleum Compound": supply.
- 95/27. "Electric Snuff" (1s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. bottles).
- 97/55. "Walkerautos," a rheumatism-cure.
- 93/47. Pratt's "Animal Regulator" for horses.
- 100/6. Curtis's anti-abortion powder for cattle.
- 97/54. "Zephyr" rubber bandages (perforated).
- 93/69. "Anglo-American" I.R. fountain syringe.
- 99/1. Codman & Shirliff's inhaler: London supply.
- 98/48. Dr. Shurman's or Dr. Shermaire's truss: supply.

## INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries as to the makers or sellers of the following articles. The information will be repeated to other inquirers who send to this Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Anti-colic belts, 96/49     | Poudre de Riz l'Enchan-     |
| Antiformin, 96/56           | teresse, 94/50              |
| Andrew's liver-salt, 93/35  | Process-blocks, 93/5        |
| Clement's shaving-soap,     | "Rexall" Remedies (Lon-     |
| 95/54                       | don address), 96/6          |
| Crude carbolic acid, 92/33  | Rhodine, 100/24             |
| Cusylol, 94/4               | Rubie Carlsbad powder,      |
| Cyona, 89/16                | 95/61                       |
| "Fairy" soap, 98/73         | Sartorius balances, 97/600  |
| "Florozel" toilet articles, | Semi-transparent soothing-  |
| 100/34                      | teats, 98/14                |
| "H" (in ring) hæmatogen,    | Silicate of soda (manufac-  |
| 94/12                       | turers), 96/20              |
| "Heron" tonic for horses,   | Silver leaf (makers), 93/32 |
| 98/7                        | Small files for ampoules,   |
| Iron alginoid, 92/48        | 95/65                       |
| Kaolin-poultice, 95/72      | "Soiloff," 99/18            |
| Kuhlmann's balances, 97/6   | South American cinchonas    |
| "Manie" nail-clippers,      | (importers) (French in-     |
| 97/47                       | quiry), 97/31               |
| Mercolised wax, 97/16       | "Stork" water-proof sheet-  |
| "Mikado" toilet-paper,      | ing, 95/610                 |
| 92/23                       | Terratose, 97/56            |
| Paraffin liquid, 97/35      | Thigenol, 94/20             |
| Pill-making apparatus       | "Turco," 97/58              |
| (hand-power), 98/63         | Van Buskirk's "Sozodont,"   |
| Pine-shampoo, concentrated, | 39/18                       |
| 92/21                       | Vapo-Naphthol, 100/26       |
| Pineola, 92/210             | Vioform gauze, 100/25       |

## APPRECIATIONS.

From a firm of South African Merchants:

"We thank you for your favour of the 23rd inst. advising us of the source of —. Your letter adds another item to the already large debt we owe you for valuable information."—(88/48.)

From a South Coast Firm:

"Many thanks for the prompt manner in which you put me on the track of '— Pastilles.' Our customer was highly delighted, as he had been unable to obtain same in England for some years, though having tried at several places, including the large London stores."—(80/1.)



## OBSERVATIONS &amp; REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser II.

## The Claim to Dispense

which the doctors are now putting forward centres, like the other claims, in the pocket; it is the profit to be got out of dispensing that the doctors want. Some of them go so far as to demand a dispensing tariff of their own, because they cannot, as business men, compete with us, though they propose to invade our province. The question, How are pharmacists to meet this attempt to deprive them of their occupation? is important. The doctors appear to have captured the Press, or part of it, and personal influence may prove to be our best, or even our only, weapon. Every pharmacy in the country ought to be a centre of agitation for the principle of the Act—that prescribing and dispensing shall not be in the same hands. Fortunately we can speak on this point with an authority and a force possessed by nobody else; we know, as nobody else does, both what prescribing is and what dispensing ought to be, and if we cannot make our knowledge effective in our own defence, we shall deserve any disaster that may befall us. We have too long been content with a “back seat”; it has now become a matter of life and death to us that we should demonstrate not only our own fitness, but the unfitness of the doctor for the work the Insurance Act assigns us.

## Mr. Richards,

in the article in your last week's issue which faces the report of the representative meeting of the B.M.A., at which the doctors' claim to dispense was discussed, contrasts the dispensing at hospitals and by medical practitioners with that of pharmacists, and suggests that in some respects dispensing under the Act will almost necessarily conform in character to the former. I do not suppose he places doctors and hospitals on precisely the same level as regards dispensing; he seems, on the contrary, to refer particularly to the doctors in what he says of the worst features of the dispensing he is contrasting with ours. These may be characterised as combining the wholesale with the happy-go-lucky, stock-mixtures with the rule of thumb, an ignoring of “strict pharmacy,” and the use of cheap substitutes for official preparations. Now there is no reason why cheaper preparations should not in many cases be used; probably they could be made quite as efficient, but pharmacists will do well to emphasise the fact that it was precisely against cheap dispensing that Mr. Lloyd George aimed his Bill. This was why he insisted on the necessity of divorcing dispensing from prescribing, and our policy now is to uphold the pharmaceutical standard. Less expensive formulæ might well, with official sanction, be adopted, and we need not hesitate to indicate them, but we must give no colour to the notion that a lower standard of accuracy and efficiency than we maintain in our ordinary business can be thought of in this new work. We must insist that insured persons should be treated exactly as the uninsured are treated, and that the only way to secure this is to entrust the dispensing to us. I am sure Mr. Richards will agree.

## The Question of Booking-fees

is still troubling the pharmaceutical waters. I was not aware that my remarks had been circulated by any of the wholesale houses (they omitted to send me a copy), nor have I seen any statement as to their reasons for the new move. I think it would have been better if they had replied to your correspondents, instead of letting it appear as if they cannot justify the step they have taken. I certainly hold no brief for the wholesale trade, and was induced to make my previous observation simply on taking a common-sense view of the situation. It is the chemist who makes the contract with the carrier, and unless the wholesaler formally undertakes to be a party to the contract, which I think is never done, neither the carrier nor the retailer has any claim on him or any right to expect him to pay fees. “A Country

Chemist” appears to think that wholesalers ought to appreciate

## The Blessings of the Contract System

because of the large amount of money it must save in the course of a year, but he forgets that the system tends to intensify the very evil which the wholesaler wants to get rid of—namely, the multiplicity of small orders, for which relief he willingly and—according to your correspondent—handsomely pays by sending large orders free. The warehouse and office charges connected with a ten-shilling order are just about as high as those for one of ten pounds, and it is with the object of getting rid of a large proportion of these expenses that carriage-paid inducements are offered. Assuming “A Country Chemist's” figures to be correct, and that the splitting up of 5l. orders into carrier's parcels would mean a saving of 2s. to the wholesaler, that amount would nothing like pay for the extra time required by warehouse hands, packers, and invoice and booking clerks; if it did, we should probably never have heard a whisper of objections to paying the booking-fees.

## Tuberculin Therapy

is to the pharmacist the most confusing branch of medicine that I am acquainted with, and if, in addition to the complexities of the subject, we are now to believe, as we are told in the paragraph in last week's issue, that diluted tuberculins do not keep beyond a limited period, then our position in relation to this class of products becomes still more parlous. The varieties of tuberculin are legion. There are T.O. (original tuberculin, human); T.R. (new tuberculin, human); T.B.E. (tubercle bacillary emulsion, human); P.T.O. (perlsucht or bovine original tuberculin); P.T.R. and P.T.B.E., with other varieties less frequently mentioned. Then there are doctors who advocate mixtures of these different varieties in various combinations, proportions, and doses; and, to add to the confusion, some of the products are standardised by the weight of the active medicament, while others are prescribed in minims or fractional parts of a cubic centimetre. All of this is very perplexing indeed, and when we are to be expected not only to guarantee the activity of the product, but even to instruct the doctor as to the nature of the medicine, as I am sometimes asked to do, not to speak of advising him regarding doses, I begin to wonder whether the game is worth the candle.

## The late Mr. Wootton

would, I am sure, have been pleased to know that his “Chronicles of Pharmacy” had begotten in pharmaceutical students an interest in the history of their craft, and to have heard it discussed at their meetings, but I doubt whether he would have approved of the use made of it in a paper recently read before the School of Pharmacy Students' Association. It would not be exaggerating to say that this paper was little more than a cento of passages from Mr. Wootton's book; I have discovered but one statement of fact of any importance in it that is not “conveyed” from his pages, almost, and often entirely, in Mr. Wootton's own words. This is true, too, to a very large extent, of the opinions expressed in the paper. The writer, however, like most borrowers, sometimes makes mistakes, having evidently misunderstood his author. Thus he speaks as if Theophrastus were a Roman writer, places the reign of our eighth Henry in the Middle Ages, refers to a “Celernian” school of medicine unknown to me, asserts that the transference of Arabian science to Europe was due to the Crusades, and attributes to Bernard of Gordon a statement made by John of Gaddesdon. These blunders are, I fancy, the only original contributions made by the writer to his “Study in Evolution,” and he does not make the matter any better by his concluding sentence. Speaking of the “history” which (as he says) “I have imperfectly sketched,” he adds: “I have made full use of the literature of the subject, including the ‘Chronicles of Pharmacy,’ to which work I have to acknowledge my indebtedness.” The italics are mine. Full use has certainly been made of the work named, if of no other, but the acknowledgment is not only inadequate but disingenuous and misleading.



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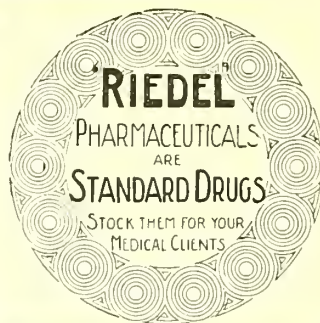
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### The Glycerin Market.

It will have been noticed from our Trade Reports recently that trouble was threatened to the British Convention which controls the makers' prices of chemically pure glycerin. This, it will be remembered, was caused by two of its most important constituents, Messrs. Joseph Crosfield & Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. William Gossage &



Sons, Ltd., giving the requisite thirty days' notice to withdraw from the Convention, probably owing to the recent amalgamation. As this notice also extended to the Continental Convention, there was an immediate prospect of keen and free competition between British and Continental refiners unless some arrangement was arrived at before the notice expired, which was on March 4. We are now able to state on excellent authority that at a meeting of the Glycerin Association held on Friday (March 1) the two above-mentioned firms withdrew the notices they had previously given, so that the Convention, which consists of all the leading British refiners, stands where it did for a further indefinite period. The arrangement is of course based on a mutual understanding, which it is certainly to the interests of refiners to maintain. At Friday's meeting occasion was also taken to reduce the official quotation for chemically pure by 10% per ton, which brings the official rate to a basis of 85% per ton naked in drums and 89% in tins in cases, further details of which will be found in our Trade Report. This reduction is not surprising in view of the fact that market quotations had been nominal for several months past and buying had been strictly hand-to-mouth. It cannot yet be said that confidence has been fully established by this drastic cut, and second-hands are substantially below the official quotation, as the effect of the threatened rupture has not yet passed away. Moreover, coming at a time when the country is passing through a crisis, the official rates may not yet become effective. This, added to the fact that the prices of oils and fats generally have been cheaper and that prices have declined in the Paris and Marseilles markets, gives the cue to the present reduction. It may also be said that the extremely high price of chemically pure had considerably curtailed the consumption for pharmaceutical purposes; but for industrial uses there appears to have been no diminution, judging from the imports into the chief consuming countries last year, which we give later. Indeed, it is considered that the outlet for industrial purposes is more likely to increase than decrease during the next few years, and, of course, the price of chemically pure is dependent on the fluctuation of the crude product. It is generally known that only chemically pure glycerin is regulated by the Conventions, there being an open market in the crude and industrial qualities. These Conventions act independently of each other as regards prices, but they have a working agreement as to the limitation of competition in their respective spheres. The present Convention was instituted in 1907, its predecessor having collapsed in 1905, as noted in the *C. & D.* at the time. At that period chemically pure was offering at 49% to 50% per ton. In June 1909 it was 75% per ton, but by September 1910 the basis for 5-ton contracts was 100%, and in November 1910 it touched its highest point, 105%.

Some idea of the world's consumption of glycerin of all descriptions for the past three years may be gathered from the following figures compiled from official sources:

Imports into	1909	1910	1911
Great Britain ... cwt.	62,004	79,064	122,311
Germany ... kilos.	—	5,599,200	6,383,800
*United States ... lb.	36,248,421	41,181,526	40,109,007
South Africa ... lb.	12,867,477	13,377,645	14,741,326
**Canada ... lb.	3,960,054	4,258,708	3,136,737
Japan ... kin	804,991	903,344	1,460,307

\* Year ending June 30.

\*\* Year ending March 31.

These figures demonstrate that in spite of the extremely high prices the consumption of the countries named (with the exception of the United States) showed a substantial increase last year. Taking the British imports first, we find that the bulk was crude glycerin—105,961 cwt., as against 67,958 cwt. in 1910, the imports of distilled being 16,350 cwt., as against 11,806 cwt. in 1910. On the export side we have the following figures for Great Britain:

	1909 cwt.	1910 cwt.	1911 cwt.
Crude ...	115,950	149,976	126,586
Distilled ...	84,190	88,086	106,560
	200,140	238,062	233,546

There were also re-exports of foreign glycerin from Great Britain (principally crude), as follows:

Cwt.	1909	1910	1911
...	15,543	18,559	17,066

As an exporter Germany shipped 4,856,300 kilos. last year, of which slightly more than half was crude, this comparing with 4,280,500 kilos. in 1910, of which 2,594,000 kilos. was refined and 1,686,500 kilos. crude. We may take it that the imports into South Africa were practically all for the mining industries and consisted of dynamite qualities, the consumption being 6,581 tons. The imports into the United States last year were slightly less at rather over 20,000 tons; but in spite of this the United States is still the largest consumer of glycerin in the world, mainly in consequence of the gigantic scale of her railway and other engineering works. The British production is stated to amount to about 13,000 tons per annum, the French to 14,000 tons, the German to 9,000 tons, the Spanish and Italian to 4,000 tons. American makers produce about 20,000 tons, and, as already stated, they imported another 20,000 tons last year.

## Cod-liver Oil.

It will be noticed from the full reports which we publish weekly in our market section that the Lofoten cod-fisheries have this season shown a remarkable development since their initiation at the end of January. Taking Norway as a whole, there are, as compared with the corresponding date of last year, an increase of 12,800,000 cod and an increase of 11,958 hectolitres of steam-refined oil, as shown by the figures given in the subjoined table, which are those furnished by the Government Bureau, and represent the catch and output up to March 2:

	Catch of Cod	Livers for Raw Oils	Yield of Cod-liver Oil
Lofoten, 1911 ...	4,600,000	489	3,658
Do. 1910 ...	2,100,000	197	1,706
Whole of Norway, 1911	20,200,000	3,575	17,544
Do. 1910	7,400,000	2,620	5,586

It may be said that up to the present the weather has been exceptionally favourable for the fishing, which is proceeding regularly all over the Lofoten districts. In recent years the fishing has been limited to Western Lofoten only, but it is remarkable that this season Eastern Lofoten as in former years has a good fishing yield. The probability is that this will eventually mean a considerable increase in the catch at the Lofotens, where as a whole the fishing for several years past has been a continually decreasing one. In the other fishing districts the prospects for a good catch are also favourable. The principal so-called winter fishing usually takes place this

month, and it now mainly depends on the weather as to whether the present lead is to be increased or maintained. It was anticipated that the liver this year would prove small and lean, but even this calculation has been upset, as, although the livers are small, the percentage of oil has been rather more than last year—viz., 45 to 50 per cent. The result of such a prolific catch so early in the season has led, most naturally, to a rapidly declining market, and since December last the aggregate reductions on the price of steam-refined medicinal oil are between 25s. and 30s. per barrel; a month ago such a decline would not have been thought possible, and it is worth while examining more closely the underlying causes. In the first place it is admitted that there is a considerable stock of last season's oil in Norway, estimated at about 20,000 barrels, but we doubt if much of this is the best medicinal quality. Secondly, the quantity of oil manufactured in Finmarken during November and December was much larger than expected, being about 4,500 hectolitres, as against 850 hectolitres last year. The other fisheries also rendered very satisfactory results, so that the so-called autumn fishing as a whole proved a surprise. Thirdly, the Lofoten fishing commenced earlier this season, and with a very favourable start. Consequently buyers have so far held aloof, and very little of the new season's oil, which is of very fine quality, has been sold. At this period the prospects favour a bumper crop of oil and at much lower prices than in 1911. Some regard the present quotations as very reasonable, but, as we pointed out last week, prices at the end of February 1908 touched 55s. per barrel, whereas with a much larger production of oil so far this season 77s. per barrel c.i.f. is quoted, with the market tending downwards.

## Applied Chemistry.

### II.

In the Preface to the first volume of the second edition of "A Dictionary of Applied Chemistry,"\* Sir Edward Thorpe begins by saying:

"During the twenty-two years that have elapsed since the first volume of this work made its appearance chemistry has advanced at a rate and to an extent altogether unprecedented in its history, or, indeed, in the history of any other science."

This reflection almost naturally takes one back further in the history of chemistry to the year 1821, when Dr. Andrew Ure published a "Dictionary of Chemistry," of which Sir Edward Thorpe's work is a lineal descendant, just as Ure's was the successor of William Nicholson's "Dictionary of Chemistry," first published in 1795, when Modern Chemistry was still struggling in alchemical bonds. A host of interesting historical facts floods the mind at the mention of these names. For instance, Ure was chemist to the Board of Customs, while Sir Edward Thorpe was also in his capacity as Principal of the Government Laboratory, and Ure was one of the earliest and best friends of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. His Dictionary went through several editions. The last, published in 1831, was entitled "A Dictionary of Chemistry and Mineralogy." In 1837 he published his "Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines," four editions of which had appeared by the time of his death (January 2, 1857), when the editing fell to R. Hunt, under whom the fifth (1860), sixth (1872), and seventh (1878) editions were published. Meanwhile Henry Watts,

F.R.S., Editor of the "Journal of the Chemical Society," had been engaged to prepare a new edition of "The Dictionary of Chemistry and Mineralogy," and the result was what is familiarly known as "Watts' Dictionary" ("Dictionary of chemistry and the allied branches of other sciences founded on that of Ure"), which was published in 1863-1868 in five volumes, supplementary volumes appearing in 1872, 1875, and 1879-81, altogether nine volumes. A new edition of all but the second volume of the third supplement was published in 1883. T. E. Thorpe, Ph.D., F.R.S., then professor of chemistry in the Yorkshire College of Science, Leeds, wrote the articles on Flame, Specific Volumes, and Water for the third Supplement. In 1888 a new edition of "Watts' Dictionary of Chemistry revised and entirely rewritten by H. Forster Morley, M.A., D.Sc., and M. M. Pattison Muir, M.A.," began to appear, and was completed in four volumes by 1894. The Preface of this states:

"The original edition was called 'A Dictionary of Chemistry and the Allied Branches of other Sciences'; the new edition deals with chemistry only. Considerable space was devoted in the original work to processes of chemical technology; the new edition gives no special information with regard to these matters. Technical chemistry will be treated in a companion volume to be published under the editorship of Professor Thorpe."

This work of Thorpe's "is essentially a Dictionary of Chemistry in its Applications to the Arts and Manufactures," and three volumes instead of one were required to do the subject justice, the first appearing in 1890, the second a year later, and the third in 1893. Now we have the beginning of an edition in five volumes, in *format* like the first. It would be absurd to compare the work with Ure's, yet it is not difficult on placing them together (we have the edition of 1827 before us) to notice a resemblance in the nature of the subjects and the style of treatment. Ure said in 1827:

"This [deepest gratitude] I have now endeavoured to evince by the thorough revision bestowed in preparing the present [edition] for the press. Whatever obsolete or useless details remained in it I have been sedulous to expunge, and replace by matter equally interesting and new. Hence there seems to be no good reason for retaining the name of Nicholson in the title-page, as the portion of the work which can be truly traced to his pen has become nearly evanescent."

In like manner could every succeeding editor have written, but we must recognise that William Nicholson (whose "Journal of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and the Arts," was the scientific periodical at the beginning of the nineteenth century, and contained many of Priestley's papers) is yet heard, a still small voice, in Thorpe's Dictionary. Such a record of continuity in books of science, beginning in the eighteenth century, and continuing in the twentieth, is, we should think, unique. It is, therefore, not unprofitable to outline these biographic evolutions before the contents of the new edition of "Thorpe" are critically examined and compared with the edition of 1890-93. In the meantime, we may say that Sir Edward Thorpe exhibits a keen appreciation of the developments in applied chemistry during the past two decades, and has had, for the first volume, the assistance of forty-seven experts (British, American, German, Swiss, etc.) in special branches of chemistry, including one lady—Miss Beatrice Thomas, of Girton College, the first woman in the three centuries to have her name associated with the successive works. The names of other women (Miss Zelda Kahan, B.Sc., and Miss Gertrude Walsh, M.Sc.) are mentioned in the Preface with fourteen gentlemen who helped in the revision, compilation, and proof-reading. Mention of these helpers exemplifies the complexity of chemistry at the present day, and the ability required in the man who has to edit work of so varied

\* "A Dictionary of Applied Chemistry," by Sir Edward Thorpe, C.B., LL.D., F.R.S. Assisted by eminent contributors. Revised and enlarged edition. 5 vols. Medium 8vo. 2l. 5s. per volume. (Longmans, Green & Co.)



a character, and from so many sources, in order that the "Dictionary" may give explicit information to experts and novices who turn to it for that purpose. The first volume is a tribute to Sir Edward Thorpe's accomplishments as a chemist and editor

## Mainly Financial.

THE prosperity in the drug-trade of Great Britain which is reflected at present in the reports of leading wholesale companies is not shown in the accounts of the premier organisation of pharmacists—the Pharmaceutical Society. The financial statement for 1911 submitted to the Council on Wednesday shows a deficit of 1,014*l.* on the year, although the revenue was less by 277*l.* only. From Minor examination fees 518*l.* less was received and 20*l.* less from school fees, while the registration of students brought 125*l.* more to the exchequer, investments 95*l.* more, and subscriptions 41*l.* more. In printing the accounts we contrast the items for 1910 and 1911. The following table shows how the more important items of expenditure differ in 1911 compared with 1910 :

Expenditure upon	Less	More
	£	£
Examinations ... ..	78	—
Furniture ... ..	69	—
Phar. Journal ... ..	—	418
Law Costs ... ..	300	—
Library ... ..	—	147
N. B. Branch ... ..	—	87
Postage (Journal) ... ..	75	—
Rent, etc. ... ..	—	275
Repairs ... ..	328	—
Salaries ... ..	—	53
School ... ..	—	110
Travelling Expenses ... ..	—	66
Local Organisation ... ..	—	327
B. P. Codex ... ..	—	182
Chartered Accountants ... ..	—	78

The deficit of 1,014*l.* does not take into account 1,000*l.*, being the instalment of a legacy from the late Michael Carteghe, which is helpful, but independent of that, the Society is again in the unenviable position of being unable to pay its way. As on former occasions this is chiefly owing to expenditure on the publications department. During the past three years the "Journal" and postage thereon have accounted for 8,537*l.*, absorbed from the general revenue of the Society; while the publication of the "British Pharmaceutical Codex" has cost 1070*l.* more than the Society has got out of it. The school continues to cost the Society in the neighbourhood of 1,200*l.*, as it has done for about a quarter of a century. In any consideration of the means to make ends meet, it is necessary to keep in mind that the Society received 7,021*l.* in 1911 from examination and registration fees, and the direct expenditure on account of examinations was less than 2,000*l.*, so that it is not its statutory duties that embarrass the Society; on the contrary, these duties are a source of profit, without which the Society would be insolvent.

## National Health Insurance Dispensing.

We indicated last week that funds would be needed from chemists to finance the work which the Provisional Pharmaceutical Committee has to do for them, and this week Mr. Woolcock, who is acting as Secretary for the Committee, sends us an appeal, his letter also outlining

the nature of the organisation which is proposed. We have little fear about the money being forthcoming, but we would emphasise the fact that contributions must be spontaneous. Perhaps Chemists' Associations might make a beginning. It is not proposed to "pass round the hat" or to appeal to wholesalers. The committee is working for retailers, and every one who intends to get his share of the dispensing under the National Insurance Act should contribute, so that the committee will be in a position to make as good a fight for them as possible.

## Insurance of Chemists' Employees.

We have had inquiries recently as to the possibility of forming an independent society for the insurance under the National Insurance Act of chemists' assistants, apprentices, and other employees, both in the retail and wholesale sections of the trade. We find that there is no eagerness on the part of any existing trade organisation to undertake this work, but the National Health Insurance Commission (England) has this week published a series of circulars, forms, and rules, perusal of which suggests to us that it is not beyond the range of the Pharmaceutical Committee to do something in the matter when it is reconstituted so as to represent directly the chemists of Great Britain. One of the Commissioners' circulars (No. A.S. 4) deals with small societies, and is as follows :

Any Society, whatever its size, may apply to the Insurance Commission for approval with a view to administering the National Insurance Act, provided that it is a society not carried on for profit, and that its constitution provides for its affairs being under the absolute control of its members.

*Approval.*—Approval may be granted after the submission to the Commission by the Society of its rules.

*Existing Societies.*—Nothing in the Act affords any reason for the dissolution of any society, as in no instance can its existing funds be taken from it or its solvency injured.

*Existing Funds.*—Every registered Friendly Society which confers benefits similar to those given by the Act must submit a scheme to the Registrar of Friendly Societies showing whether and how far it proposes to vary the benefits and contributions of its members who are insured persons. This scheme must be so arranged as not to injure the Society. Any funds set free under the scheme may be applied for the advantage of existing members (whether they become insured under the Act or not) either by the grant of increased benefits or by the reduction of contributions. To be valid, such a scheme must be adopted by the Society in accordance with its rules and confirmed by the Registrar of Friendly Societies. It must not be sent to the Insurance Commission.

*Position of Small Societies after Approval.*—The Act provides for small societies—that is, societies with less than 5,000 members insured under the Act—being able to become approved and retain independent government, however small. In such cases, however, the Act provides for arrangements being made for spreading the risks. This can be done in one of two ways:

(1) *By Association.*—After approval, and before the first valuation under the Act, a small society should consider whether or not it desires to join with other small Societies in the same part of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales) for the formation of an association with not less than 5,000 members insured under the Act, under a Central Financial Committee.

A society which joins such an association will not thereby lose its right to self-government, but the associated Societies will help one another against deficiencies arising from their business under the Act. If upon a valuation a society in an association is shown to be in deficiency, the other Societies in the association which have a surplus will come to its assistance; but no Society will be called upon to use for this purpose more than one-third of its surplus, and, unless the association otherwise determine, one-quarter of the deficiency will be found by the Society in deficiency.

The remaining two-thirds of the surplus funds of the Societies in the association will not be affected by this arrangement, and their existing funds and future business outside the Act will not in any case be affected.

(2) *By Grouping.*—Any small Society, which at the date of the first valuation under the Act has not joined such an association, will be grouped for the purposes of valuation with the other unassociated small Societies in the same county or county borough, on the same conditions as those described above.

A society which has 5,000 members at the date of the first valuation, which is intended to take place at the end of three years, need neither join an association nor be grouped.

There are in Great Britain more than a hundred chemists' associations, and these may comprise the employers of several thousands of assistants and apprentices who have to be insured on July 1, 1912. If these were to act in the first instance individually, then collectively through the International Pharmaceutical Committee, we should have a Pharmaceutical Friendly Society. We submit the suggestion for consideration; whether it is taken up or not is immaterial at this stage, for the necessity of every employé being insured remains, and it will be seen that the Commissioners are prepared to provide for the smallest societies. Chemists' Associations who desire to follow up the suggestion should address the Commissioners, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W., is the address of the Commissioners for England, whose circulars we refer to.

### The General Medical Council.

The accounts for 1911 have been published. The income was 6,808*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.*, of which 5,903*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* was from registration fees. The whole of the income was spent, 3,062*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to members for attendance, 1,057*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.* on office expenses, and 1,055*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* for printing. During the year 1,027 copies of "The British Pharmacopœia" and 17 of the Addendum were sold, bringing in 342*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, and the fund received also 17*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* of interest. The expenditure amounted to 358*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, the items being:

Binding	£27	5	0
Conference expenses, library, printing, etc....	180	19	2
Grant to Dr. Tirard	50	0	0
Committee of Reference	100	0	0
New Pharmacopœia Account: Editors' salaries, files, etc.	146	0	8

There is a balance of 1,205*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* remaining.

## The Coal Strike.

WE are beginning to receive inquiries as to what is likely to happen to the chemical and drug-trades, especially retail pharmacy, if the strike of coal miners for a minimum wage goes on much longer. The only possible answer is "Some inconvenience." It will be seen from the following notes of communications and conversations which we have had with leading houses that they are cheerful, and generally consider that they will be able to do their part of the business, while retailers, who exhibit forethought, should have no fear of theirs:

ALLEN & HANBURY LTD., Bethnal Green, E., so far as fuel and raw materials are concerned, are in a position to carry out their manufacturing requirements for some time to come, and see no reason why they should not be able to continue the normal work and effect deliveries and despatch goods promptly if the transport companies continue accepting deliveries.

THE BRITISH DRUG HOUSES, LTD., Graham Street, London, N., have had no difficulty, either in the dispatch or receipt of goods. They have a large supply of coal, which will enable them to carry on manufacturing processes for two months at least, and their stocks of raw materials and manufactured products are equally adequate. There has been a little difficulty in getting delivery of supplies from some of the factories in the North, and one bottle factory has actually shut down, but the company has not been inconvenienced, and see no reason why retail pharmacists should be.

BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co., Coleman Street, London, E.C.—Ample precautions were made as to the stock of coals, chemicals, drugs, and containers, with the result that everything is working smoothly in the firm's factory at East Ham, as well as in the City warehouses. The firm have issued to their customers the following notice with all their invoices:

#### COLLIERS STRIKE.

We shall employ every endeavour to ensure prompt despatch of goods, but in view of the entralment and the partial suspension of the railways and shipping services, we cannot accept any responsibility in the event of delay in transit.

On the receipt of invoice (which may be taken as an advice of despatch) we would suggest that application for the goods

be made to the local railway or shipping agent, who will endeavour to secure prompt delivery.

All orders will be forwarded with special promptitude to obviate as far as possible any risk of delay.

BURROUGHS WELLCOME & Co., Snow Hill, London, E.C.—Business has not been in the slightest degree interrupted, and the factories at Dartford are working as usual, having abundant supplies of fuel and all commodities for manufacturing and packing.

CONDY & MITCHELL, LTD., Goswell Road, London, E.C., were well warned in advance by the bottle-makers in Yorkshire, with the result that they have a fine stock of bottles, and up to the present there has been no trouble in regard to the transport of goods.

EDWARDS' HARLENE Co., High Holborn, London, W.C., have been advised by their travellers in the Midlands that labour difficulty is foreseen there. The firm have for some time been delivering to customers larger quantities of their preparations, in anticipation of difficulty in delivery, and they are invoicing forward in cases where customers desire to have immediate supplies for future use.

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD., Liverpool and London.—The strike has not affected them, and ordinary trade is going on as usual. At the Liverpool factories a plentiful supply of coal has been laid in, and the only difficulty experienced up to the present has been in the somewhat delayed delivery of heavy chemicals, such as bleaching-powder and hyposulphite of soda, as well as bottles.

FRANCIS NEWBURY & SONS, LTD., Charterhouse Square, London, E.C., say that the only indication they have had of disturbance of ordinary conditions is in the nature of a few complaints from the North that goods are not delivered so promptly as they should have been. Stocks are slow also in coming in. The company had anticipated the latter circumstance, and put in increased stocks of the lines in more common demand.

S. MAW, SON & SONS, Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.—No trouble so far. Some customers have been ordering in advance and somewhat more largely than usual in anticipation of the present crisis, while there is a disposition on the part of customers generally to get in at the beginning of the month what they may not require until the end. The firm carry good stocks, and have no fear about meeting all demands.

PARKE, DAVIS & Co., Beak Street, London, W., have experienced no trouble whatever. As far as their factory at Hounslow is concerned, the possibility of the electric-power supply giving out is the greatest fear, but the suppliers of the public power have given assurance that their coal stock will last for weeks to come. The firm have had no difficulty at all in delivering goods to their customers, or in receiving supplies.

WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY, LTD., Southwark, London, S.E., anticipated the crisis by laying in exceptional stocks of bottles and coals and of all the goods required in their pharmaceutical laboratories, soap factory, and warehouses, with the result that they have not experienced the slightest difficulty up to the present. The only indication of an abnormal condition of affairs outside is that few empties are coming back, and if that condition were to continue very long there might be some inconvenience. In accordance with the railway companies' notices, goods are being sent out at owner's risk. Notwithstanding, there has been no indication that deliveries have not been effected as usual. The company propose to post notices to their employes that, in the event of unexpected prolongation of the strike, they might have to close down certain manufacturing departments, but this, they consider, is a remote eventuality.

It will be observed that a note of confidence rings throughout all these communications. Several manufacturers have expressed themselves with hesitation regarding the supply of electricity—one thing they could not store, but it is well known that the electricity companies in the Metropolis have several weeks' supply of coal. We have had no complaints from centres in the provinces, where manufacturers and wholesalers have also taken time by the forelock, and laid in exceptionally large supplies of everything they can store.

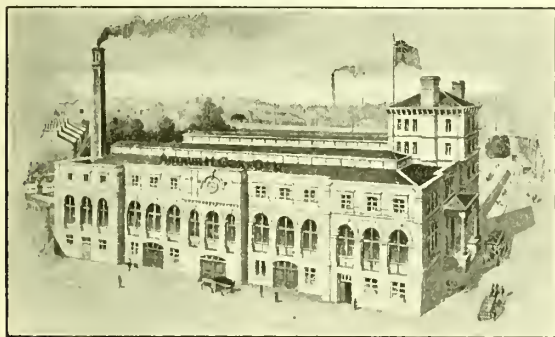
RICHARD JEFFERSON DODD, chemist and druggist, 70 Tottenham Court Road, and elsewhere, against whom a receiving order was made in December 1904, applied to Mr. Registrar Hope, at the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, March 7, for his order of discharge. Mr. D. Williams, Official Receiver, reported that the admitted proofs amounted to 2,540*l.* The assets had been estimated at 4,339*l.*, but realised 1,115*l.* gross, and a first and final dividend of 5*d.* in the pound had been paid. After hearing Mr. Tindale Davis in support of the application, his Honour granted the debtor an immediate order of discharge, subject to a judgment for 50*l.* of which 25*l.* is to be paid within a month and 25*l.* within three months.



## PILLS AND TABLETS.

### An Illustrated Description of the New Factory of Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., at Brighton.

THE pill business of which the late Arthur Hawker Cox began to lay the foundations when he commenced business as a chemist and druggist in Brighton in 1839 was still small in 1854, the year he obtained letters patent for his first method of pill-coating. Indeed, it was not until the seventies that the drug-trade realised that pill-making on the manufacturing scale had become a possibility, and in 1871 Mr. Cox found it necessary to



THE NEW COX FACTORY.

The buildings, such as the motor-house, in the forecourt and the wall round it are not shown.

erect a factory in St. Martin's Place, Brighton, for his rapidly developing industry. This factory was added to on several occasions during his lifetime, and since his death in 1903 the business has grown so much under the direction of his sons, Mr. Arthur Hawker Cox and Mr. Edward E. Cox, F.R.M.S., that they acquired last year a building which stands on a triangular space adjoining the railway at Kemp Town. When the company took possession of the building it consisted of two floors, to which they have added a third, the exterior of which is fairly represented in the first engraving that illustrates these notes of a visit of inspection which one of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST staff recently paid to it. The centre-piece of the new floor is a magnificent clock, man-high, which is a boon to the neighbourhood, as much owing to its accuracy (it has not lost or gained a minute in six months) as to its conspicuous face.



Mr. A. H. Cox.

The goods entrance and exit are in the forecourt wall, and the business entrance at the side, where the door-porch is seen. Entering this, one steps into a delightful vestibule, beautifully and lightly decorated with specially made tiles of golden tone, and leaded glass, also the work of an artist who realises the importance of first impressions, as well as the advantage of securing the fullest possible light to the general office, to which it forms a screen. The vestibule forms a waiting-hall, and a touch of the electric bell brings a courteous and prompt response from within. Then we enter the general office, our picture of which was taken from the front. Besides the window-

light this office has a fine glazed dome, which adds to the illumination and gives an exceptional airiness to the apartment. It is here that Mr. A. H. Cox spends his business days, directing the administrative work of the business. He was trained as a pharmacist under the late Mr. Marshall Leigh, and is familiar practically with all the work of the factory, but Mr. E. E. Cox directly supervises that department of the business. It is common knowledge that extensive alteration to a building, such as adding a floor or generally re-modelling premises, is far more intricate work than erecting an entirely new factory; and, although an architect has been employed, the whole of the schemes and arrangements have had the personal attention of Mr. E. E. Cox, who also arranged for the "lightning move," which took place without customers having an opportunity of knowing that the company had changed their quarters.

Office arrangements and work are the keynote of a business; and here we find an orderly system which is the starting-point for all that goes on in the factory and warehouse. This is first seen in the typing-room behind the glazed partition to the right. There clerks work on a typing-machine bench, which has shelves for stationery on the partition; while a similar bench is placed on the wall behind the clerks, where they may do clerical work



THE GENERAL OFFICE.

that does not require typing. The invoicing exemplifies the system. When an invoice is typed a carbon copy of it is made at the same time upon a sheet of paper longitudinally ruled in cash columns, with a number of reference letters or words, say, A-D, E-L, and so on. According to the name or location of the customer the prices are typed in these columns, and the sheet when completed forms a leaf of a loose-leaf day-book. The collation of these in serial order makes the ledger-clerks' work easy, as a card ledger is employed, and the cards are arranged in order of the lettered columns. The system makes for accuracy, facility of reference, and speed. At the far end of the office is the secretary's room. A show-case which stands near to Mr. Cox's desk contains specimens of all the put-up specialities produced in the factory, one section of it illustrating the evolution of containers for ailment-named tablets, which have become a feature of this house, especially in regard to attractive appearance.

So far we have seen a corner of the first floor; all the rest of it is a series of rooms devoted to the manufacture and coating of pills, tablets, and other articles, while one annexe is a galenic laboratory, another is an engine-

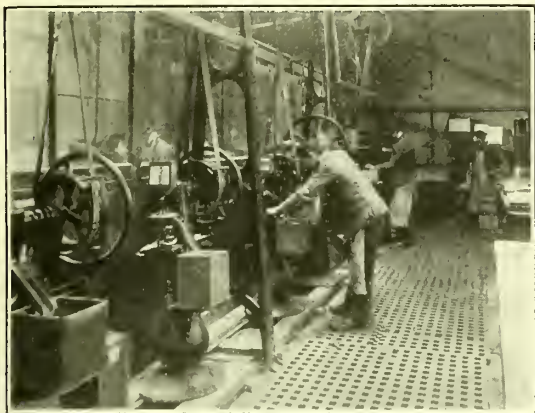
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and the engine-house, in which is a 30-h.p. gas engine for use in emergencies.

When adding a floor to the building the directors con-



A FEW OF THE TABLET MACHINES.

ceived the idea of providing for Mr. Edward Cox an office which would be a sort of conning-tower for the whole factory. This has been arranged in the steam laboratory, on the floor or platform which surrounds the vacuum-pans and drug-extractors. The office cuts into the corners of contiguous walls, and from it one gets a glimpse of what is going on in the more important parts of the first and second floors, while the whole of the steam laboratory is seen.



MR. E. E. COX.

We reproduce a photograph of the laboratory, which is an annexe to the main building, and is fitted with percolators, steam-pans, and other evaporators and stills. The company make their own extracts, such as cascara sagrada and damiana, and they are making a speciality of ext. fuci vesiculosi, getting the bladderwrack from the seashore, extracting it while fresh, and evaporating with the minimum of change. This laboratory is to be a great help to them.



THE STEAM LABORATORY.

Here are made extracts and other galenicals required in the factory.

When the founder of this business started a pill factory he little dreamt what developments of it the twentieth

century would see. Less than twenty years ago pharmacists in high places scoffed at factory-made pills—this in ignorance of the impossibility of retail chemists keeping pace with public demands, with altered conditions of trading, and at the same time making everything themselves. No one dreamt that within two decades the need for medicines in packets, neatly done up, attractively



A SPECIALITY PACKING ROOM.

labelled, of good quality, and moderate in price would be so great as to require factory aid. Here we have an example of it in the second floor of Cox's factory—bevy of brisk girls constantly employed in putting up, not only pills and tablets, but "wets," such as Phosph Tonic, and "dries," such as Münchenbad salts, as well as a series of toilet preparations. The photograph of one of the rooms must suffice to illustrate this phase of the factory life; for there is another side to it which this business exemplifies, the originating and thinking department behind it all, that anticipates demand, foresees developments, designs selling schemes, plans labels and other printed matter, and is always awake. A few years ago when Metchnikoffism was at its height the Coxes launched lactic chocolates on a world that eagerly bought. That was one of the "hits" of modern times. The experimental work in connection with Massolettes, and the



STOCK PILL ROOM.

Pills are packed in bulk here. They are stored in square tins. The labels are kept in a cabinet such as is used at railway stations for luggage labels. This is seen dimly on the left.

idea of presenting soured milk in this palatable form, emanated from Mr. Edward Cox, who is an accomplished microscopist, and bacteriology is one of his hobbies. His process for making Massolettes keeps the micro-organisms alive, so that some made nearly two years ago, when tested recently, showed vigorous strains of lactic-acid bacilli. While they wait for another such craze they are devoting special attention to the means of selling packed medicines by making them up in nice style,



packing them in boxes which serve as showcases, and getting up showcards with a specimen of the article on it, and some attractive feature about it which catches the public eye—e.g., “before” and “after” test-tubes showing how an indigestion tablet digests hard-boiled egg, or the stretched hand which spans life between boyhood and old age—this for backache and kidney tablets. These and many more striking things, some not yet launched, were seen on this visit. Another feature is the variety of the labels and cartons for the same thing, all done by our best printers. They make pictures a great feature, and in future intend to give prominence on ailment-name remedies to the statutory phrase: “A known, admitted, and approved remedy.”

It is curious how there is heredity in such things even as labels. Alderman Cox kept labels in a railway luggage-label cabinet. This is still in use, and in the printing-room is another method of cylindrical tins, each with a specimen of its contents on it—his sons’ idea; and they have carried the strain further by becoming experts in devising new styles of labels, well considered as to types and colours. These are done by colour-printers, so that from the stock sufficient may be taken for each order, the name and address of the retailer being printed on the premises. A specimen of each label so printed is entered



THE PRINTING ROOM.

Here names and addresses are printed by means of hand machines.

in books kept for the purpose, and excellent evidence these are of the widespread connection of the business at home and abroad—“British manufacture” being Cox’s unvarying guarantee.

From this packing-room a lift descends through the first floor to the basement, which, besides storage, provides bottle-washing facilities, home and export dispatch packing departments, a boiler-house with two fine Galloway boilers, an engineers’ shop for general work, engineers’ storeroom, and other accommodation. There is coal inside, and every available corner outside was full of it. Need we say why?

At the back of the premises are water-softening and storage tanks. Although at the time of our representative’s visit there were still evidences that the factory had only been recently occupied, he was informed that plans had been prepared for an extension by erecting another building on the available ground at the back. At present this is green sward, a small park triangular in shape, which will enable the directors to quadruple their floor-space. Across the road they also occupy two of the railway arches for storage, and, as we have said, the St. Martin’s Place factory is still occupied. We may recall the fact that shortly after Alderman Cox’s death the business was, for family reasons, converted into a limited company with a capital of 15,000/., Mr. A. H. Cox and Mr. E. E. Cox being the managing directors. What we have told in regard to the new factory and the developments in the business is a tribute to the energy and enterprise with which these gentlemen are carrying on their father’s legacy in pharmaceutical manufactures.

## CHEMISTS’ WINDOWS.

RARELY does one see so good an example of the benefits of renovating shop-fronts as is now provided in the premises of Mr. Edward Thomas Rich, 30 High Street, Swansea, the successor to Mr. John Davies there. The first photograph shows the old shop-front:



THE OLD.

The frontage measures only 11 ft. 3 in., so that Mr. Rich, who designed the alterations himself, has made the most of it. The woodwork is entirely of mahogany, with bent-glass windows, and the backs, ends, sides, and top of all



THE NEW.

the windows are mirror-lined. A movable stall-plate fixed on a slight rake is inside each window. The base is of polished Aberdeen granite; the entrance is formed with black and white tiles laid diagonally (12-in. squares), with marble margin and step. The showcase in the centre is permanent, and so far has proved invaluable in arresting attention, as well as from a selling point of view. The fascia letters are sunk and finished white with gold margin on black background and cut on a slight rake. The area of the show-glass in the windows alone is 126 ft. super, against 48 ft. super in the old front.



## The Cultivation and Commerce of Cardamoms.

In this article the cultivation, curing, and commerce of Cardamoms are described. The photographs were expressly taken for "The Chemist and Druggist" by Mr. H. F. MacMillan, of Peradeniya Botanic Gardens, Ceylon.

"PHARMACOGRAPHIA" traces the first mention of cardamoms to Susruta, and accordingly considers that the drug may have been used in India from a remote period, not unlikely reaching Europe, like ginger and pepper, in classical times. Edrisi *circa* 1154 notes

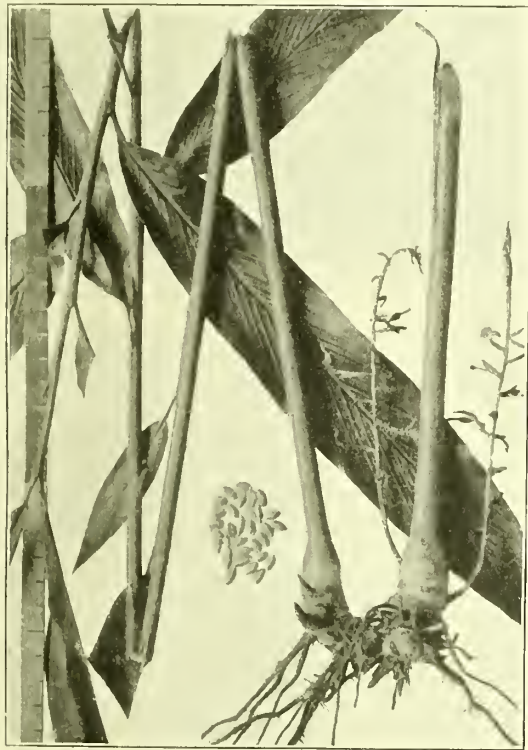


FIG. 1.—CULTIVATED CARDAMOM-PLANT, MYSORE VARIETY.

cardamoms as a product of Ceylon, but the Portuguese navigator Barbosa (1514) was the first to designate correctly the country of origin as the Malabar coast. Cardamoms grow chiefly in Ceylon and Southern India, China, Siam, and the Malay Archipelago generally, as well as in Madagascar and West Africa, but the first two only are of importance as regards European commerce. China cardamoms were described by Daniel Hanbury in 1855, since when practically nothing has been added. The Siam spice, derived from *Amomum Cardamomum*, L., found its way into the Pharmacopœias of the early part of the seventeenth century as *Amomum verum*, but by the end of the century it became a rare drug, and later disappeared. In 1857, after commercial relations reopened with Siam, forty-three bags from Bangkok offered at the London drug-auctions failed to find a purchaser, the buying-in price being 1s. 6d. The Nepal cardamom, which was sent all over India three hundred years ago as to-day, the Bengal cardamom, the "wild or bastard" cardamom of Siam, and the Java cardamom are derived from various species of *Amomum*, and, although some form a considerable article of trade in the East, these types of cardamoms do not now arrive on the London market.

### Botany.

The cardamoms of British commerce are derived from *Elettaria Cardamomum*, Maton, which grows wild, or is

cultivated, on the Malabar coast of India and in Ceylon, these countries providing almost exclusively the fine grades met with on the London markets. The annual consumption in India and Burma is computed to be nearly one million pounds. There is a large market for the spice in Calcutta, the cardamom coated with sugar forming a feature at Hindoo festivals and ceremonies.

The Malabar cardamom-plant formerly yielded the bulk of the spice imported into this country, but the cultivated Mysore variety now affords most of the fine quality. The latter plant possesses a more robust habit, having larger and coarser leaves of deeper colour, and bearing exposure better than the Malabar type. The most noticeable difference is the inflorescences which spring almost vertically from the bulb of the Mysore variety, but spread along the surface of the soil in the Malabar description. It is not known how the district name "Mysore" came to designate the variety of a cardamom plant. There is, however, much confusion regarding the equivalents in India of these two cultivated types, some holding that the names are reversed in India. There also appear to be two varieties of Malabar plants, var. *minus* being confined to Southern India and var. *majus* growing in Ceylon. The latter is distinguished



FIG. 2.—WILD CARDAMOM OF CEYLON.

by its shorter stems, broader leaves, and less globose fruits.

The reed-like nature of the true or lesser cardamom-plant is evident from fig. 1, which shows a complete young plant of the cultivated Mysore variety. The short-branched rhizome is creamy white in colour, with deep pink



markings. In the illustration a bulb bearing two aerial stems is shown, one of which is folded to give some idea of its length by comparison with a scale (the smallest section of which is equivalent to 1 in.). The lance-head shaped leaves vary from 1 to 3 ft. in length and are from 3 to 6 in. wide, while their bases are sheathing. Below the stem on the left are seen two adventitious buds, which would have produced new aerial stems. The flowers are borne in loose inflorescences (racemes) on stalks some 16 to 18 in. long, which grow out close to the ground, being usually thrown out in the full-grown plant in groups of four to each aerial stem. Each raceme may have eight to fourteen branches, each with three to six flowers. The green calyx tube of the flower is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. long. The pale green corolla lobes are half an inch long, narrow and spreading, the white lip being two-thirds of an inch long, and bearing violet purple streaks radiating from the centre. The fruits, which ripen successively, are also shown. They are three-celled, each cell containing several aromatic seeds. They open by three valves when ripe. The seeds are irregularly angular and transversely wrinkled. The fully grown plants frequently attain a height of 15 ft. or more.

Fig. 2 shows the more slender native wild cardamom of Ceylon (*Eleotaria Cardamomum*, var.  $\beta$  *major*) in a fruiting condition. Compare the size and number of fruits with fig. 1. Cardamom-plants growing in the Peradeniya Gardens, Ceylon, are shown in fig. 3.

### Cultivation.

In India the home of cardamoms is the western slopes of the mountains of the Malabar coast, where there is a mean rainfall of 121 in. and a mean temperature of 72° F. The plant, which revels in moist localities, is commonly met growing wild in the wet shady mountain-forests of Canara, Cochin, and Travancore, being indigenous between the altitude of 2,500 to 5,000 ft. The wild plant bears but short inflorescences, which become only sparsely fruited. In the States of Cochin and Travancore freer development is allowed by cutting and burning the brushwood of the jungle, while in the Coorg forests the natives practise a more systematic kind of cultivation as given below. The cultivation of the plant in the forests of the Anamalais, the Pulneys, and the Wynaad facing the Malabar coast is also in the hands of natives and of an indifferent character. The cardamom plant is best suited to a rich loamy soil, which is kept moist (but not wet) at all seasons, and is protected from strong winds. These conditions are met with in the betel-nut plantations or pepper-gardens of Mysore and of

forests and mountain-sides, and begin to make small clearings of about a square chain in extent, there being about four to an acre. A space of some 20 to 30 yds. of jungle is left between each garden. Half the party cut down the small trees and brushwood, the remainder felling the large trees. Selection of a suitable site is aided by the presence of seedling growths of cardamoms, but tradition and superstition also play a part. For instance,



FIG. 4.—CARDAMOM PLANTATION.

the presence of such plants as ebony, nutmeg, or pepper is held to be highly favourable. Felling of trees for shaking the ground must be done on certain days of the week, and be completed before noon. A party of ten men can, on an average, make five gardens a day, and generally some fifty or hundred gardens are made annually until the whole jungle is under cultivation. Too many gardens lead to an injurious decrease in the amount of available moisture. Following the early rains of the monsoon, the dormant seeds germinate, and young plants shoot up on all sides of the clearing, especially near the roots and stem of the fallen tree. The native is not sure how the plant makes its sudden appearance, but he has a general belief that the seed is spread by monkeys, rats, and snakes. By the end of a year the plants are 2 ft. high, and weeding is then begun, a space of 6 ft. being cleared around each plant, and weaklings pulled up. Considerable care is exercised in deciding which plants are superfluous. Little weeding is needed in subsequent years, as nothing will grow in the shade of the plants. By September or October of the third year a light crop is produced, which is the "Devakottu" (God's fruit) of the Coorgs, a portion being ceremoniously offered to the deity. Each rhizome will then have about eight stems, but the full-grown plant often has twenty aerial shoots. A partial harvest is obtained the fourth year, after which full crops are then produced for six or seven years, when the plants become sickly, and commence to decay. Then in February some large trees are felled across the plot, killing many of the aerial stems, and stimulating the rhizomes to produce new adventitious shoots, thereby renewing the producing capacity of the plot for another eight years, when the process of renovation is repeated.

In South Mysore the forest cultivation is carried on by a departmental agency in the Nassau district and in the Ghat forests, the Coorg system being followed, and blank spaces filled with young plants from bulbs. Two large cardamom planters (Messrs. Middleton and Brooke-Mockett) store their clearings with nursery-raised seedlings in "stools" (see next page) about 7 ft. apart. The Mysore Conservator considers that with this system the risk of interference with rainfall is increased.

In Kanara the cultivation carried on in the betel and pepper gardens of the Sirsi and Siddapur talukas is from seedlings, bulbs, and cuttings, being also used for propagation in the old gardens. They are usually planted in "stools" alternately with the betel-palms.

It is in Ceylon that the cultivation of cardamoms has been raised to a fine art, with consequent improvement in the quality of the product. About 1884, when the price

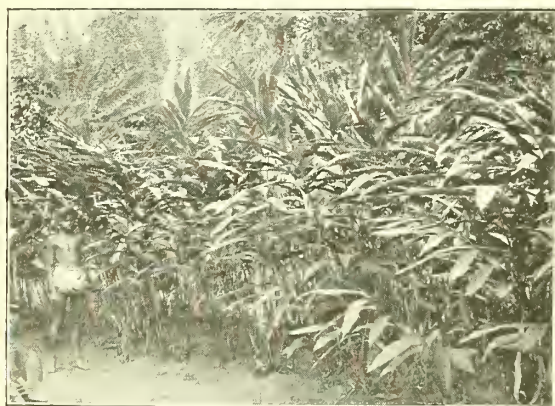


FIG. 3.—CARDAMOMS GROWING IN PERADENIYA GARDENS.

Canara, as also in the cultivated cardamom valleys of Ceylon. The plant will grow luxuriantly on stiff clayey soil, but it produces but little or no fruit under these conditions. At the best the plant is capricious in regard to fruiting.

In Coorg the Forest Department leases plots for fourteen to twenty-one years, and here the simplest of the effective modes of cultivation is followed. In February or March the cultivators set out for the shady evergreen



of the spice ruled high, cardamom-growing was tried in nearly every Ceylon plantation. Remarkable success was met with in some instances, yields of 200 lb to 300 lb. per acre being obtained. The acreage under cultivation increased until 1902, after which year low prices led to a reaction. The favourite cardamom districts of Ceylon are Matale (1474), Medamahanwara (1499), and Hewahata (395). The figures in parentheses relate to the acreage under cultivation in 1910, when 7,426 acres of land of the value of 445,560*l.* was given over in Ceylon to cardamom cultivation. In fig. 4 a typical view in a cardamom plantation is seen. The great height of the plants is evident by the way in which they arch over the owner seated on horseback. Owen deals with the cultivation of the plant in Ceylon in his pamphlet on "Cardamom Cultivation." Portions of the forest lands or sheltered moist hollows in plantations are cleared, the undergrowth being piled in heaps to rot or to be burnt, and roots removed. Sufficient shade is left, a chequered arrangement admitting a fair amount of light and air. Draining is as a rule unnecessary, but, where wet flats must be drained, the gulleys should be large (at least 2 ft. deep and wide) to prevent choking. Holes 1½ ft. to 2 ft. wide and 12 in. to 15 in. deep are dug 7 ft. apart in rows at a similar distance. These stools are filled then with good surface mould freed from stones. Before inserting a bulb, the roots are shortened with a knife if too long, and then carefully spread out, placing the bulb so that the bottom of the aerial stem is exposed. If planted too deep, it will rot. The best bulbs are double ones, consisting of two stems connected together, with one or more shoots springing from their bases (*cf.* fig. 1). Where time is no object, the bulbs can be planted uncovered in a nursery, watered when necessary, breaking off the numerous shoots thrown up with a few roots attached. These succeed well when planted out.

The use of seedlings instead of bulbs is growing. The seeds are obtained from fully ripe fruit in adhering masses. They are dried by a short exposure to the sun, and steeped in water for a few hours. The seeds are then sown thinly in nursery beds consisting of a mixture of sand and vegetable mould. The young seedlings are shaded by fern fronds stuck in the bed or by a thatch of branches arranged 3 or 4 ft. above them. The Mysore variety is the most easily grown from seed, but apparently only a small proportion germinates. Planting can be done at any time when there is no dry spell of weather. The seedlings will produce a maiden crop in three years. Little is known in regard to pruning or manuring the plants.

### Picking.

In Ceylon the plants flower almost all the year round, but principally in January to May. Picking begins at the end of August and continues until April, October to December yielding most fruit. The flowers open in ones and twos at a time, the fruits also ripening successively, extending over a second season. In India the wasteful method of pulling off whole racemes is followed, but in Ceylon careful attention is given to picking. The capsules are cut off with short-bladed scissors before they ripen (they split if pulled off or are ripe), the slight turn of colour to yellow and the firmness of the fruit being the indications to the coolie expert. The first or maiden crops give the larger pods, while the earlier pickings also yield finer fruit. An average daily picking is 10 lb.

### Curing

is effected in dry weather by exposure to the sun, but in hot weather over-exposure is guarded against, as over-heating causes the moist seeds to swell and burst the shell. Three hours exposure in the morning and two in the afternoon are sufficient in the heat. In unsettled weather advantage is taken of whatever sunshine there is. The proportion of split fruit is smaller the slower the drying. This operation is shown in fig. 5, where trays of the fruit are placed on trestles. These can be readily covered when a shower threatens. In continuous wet weather slow drying is effected by gentle artificial heat on trays contained in racks in the curing-house, but the product is more brown in colour and accordingly less valuable. The house is arranged to allow ready egress of the trays, so as

to take advantage of the sun's rays. The colour can be improved by sun-bleaching the capsules after sprinkling with water, but this considerably increases the proportion of split fruit. Ozanne in 1885 described a process used in

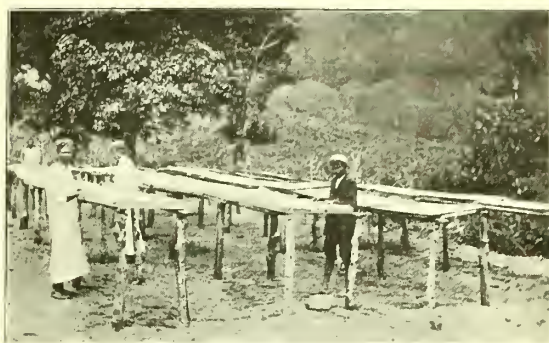


FIG. 5.—CURING CARDAMOMS.

India in which the fruits before exposure to the sun were washed in water containing pounded soap-nuts (*Sapindus Saponaria*).

### Clipping and Grading.

The capsule still bears the remains of the calyx tube at the apex and the stalk at the base, and these were formerly removed by the tedious method of hand-clipping. Machines for removing these have now been introduced, and we reproduce one at work (fig. 6). The grading of the fruit is next effected, small sieves dividing into about three sizes, while sorting as to colour is also followed. Split fruit (which averages about 10 to 15 per cent.), broken shell and seed are also sorted out. Our drawing (fig. 9) shows, natural size, the types of Ceylon-Mysore cardamoms, known respectively as "longs," "mediums," "shorts," and "tiny." After sizing, the fruit is sulphured by placing in trays over burning sulphur (fig. 7). The final operation is packing in cases for export, which is illustrated in our last photograph (fig. 8).

As indicated above, plump Ceylon-Mysores are the type of cardamoms most approved in this country. As shown in fig. 9 these vary in length from about ¼ in. to ¾ in. The smaller cardamoms of this type are ovoid, or



FIG. 6.—CLIPPING CARDAMOMS.

nearly globular, but the longer fruits are more or less indistinctly three-sided, the angles of the plumper ones being quite rounded. There is the remains of a short stalk at the base, and three shallow longitudinal grooves indicate where the fruit will split. Size, plumpness, colour, and smoothness of the shell form the chief criteria in pricing the spice. The importance of the first two lies in the fact that bold long fruit contains a higher proportion of seed and less shell than smaller spice. Split fruit

is also less valuable owing to the loss of seed and aroma. The best capsules are creamy white, being smooth and silky. The longitudinal striations become more marked on the leaner fruit, the angles at the same time becoming sharper. Readers of our market reports will be aware that there are many grades between "extra bold longs" and



FIG. 7.—SULPHURING CARDAMOMS.

"small brown splits." Reference to fig. 9 will also allow comparison of varieties of cardamoms of commercial importance in this country. The wild Ceylon cardamom is the largest, sometimes attaining  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length. It usually possesses a dark brown and coarsely striated shell, the sides of the pod being sunken and the angles sharp. Malabar cardamoms are exported both from Ceylon and India. The shell of this cardamom is generally brown and striated. The Alleppy are very similar in type to the Malabars, but are larger and appear both as bleached and unbleached, the latter retaining a peculiar green colour. A round type of cardamom known as Ceylon Mangalores sometimes arrives in the London market. This kind fetches good prices.

Decorticated seed obtained from over-ripe fruit is also a regular article of commerce. The colour and aroma count

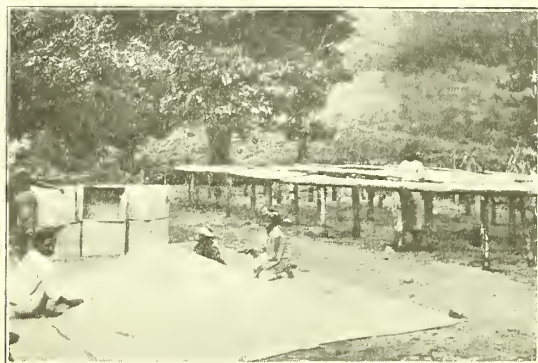


FIG. 8.—DRYING AND AIRING CARDAMOMS FOR EXPORT

for much in regard to fixing the price. The former varies from good brown to light and foxy and split. With seed there is not the same certainty as with fruit in determination of variety. Occasionally seeds of camphoraceous odour, probably not derived from the lesser cardamom plant, are offered. Shells from empty pods occasionally appear, and find buyers at a few pence per lb. Pre-

sumably the only outlet for husks is admixture with ground spice.

The principal uses of cardamoms are as a flavouring-agent in curries and cake, and in medicines as compound

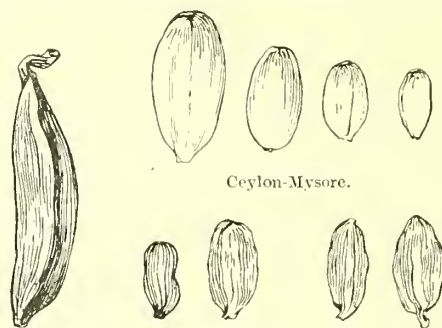


FIG. 9.—PRINCIPAL KINDS OF CARDAMOMS.

tincture of cardamoms. Russia, Sweden, Norway, and parts of Germany are the European countries which are most fond of the spice for culinary purposes. Ceylon cardamoms are also used in the manufacture of liqueurs. In India they are used coated with sugar at festivals, and for chewing with betel, as well as for a condiment and in medicine.

### Commercial.

In an article of this character a few remarks concerning the commerce in cardamoms will not be out of place. Ferguson's "Handbook" is the recognised authority in Ceylon, and from this we take the following interesting groups of figures:

Season	Acreage planted	Export in lb.	Highest London price (mid-season)
1880-1	1,200	16,069	9s. 1d.
1881-2	1,800	23,127	7s. 4d.
1882-3	2,500	21,655	7s. 1d.
1883-4	3,500	66,319	7s. 10d.
1884-5	4,000	152,405	5s. 2d.
1885-6	4,547	236,056	3s. 10d.
1886-7	4,550	321,560	2s. 4d.
1887-8	4,572	310,585	2s. 0d.
1888-9	4,801	301,705	2s. 1d.
1890	5,060	387,910	2s. 4d.
1895	4,693	374,635	1s. 10d.
1900	6,841	537,455	3s. 9d.
1901	8,621	559,704	4s. 0d.
1902	9,746	615,922	3s. 2d.
1903	9,500	909,418	2s. 6d.
1904	9,300	995,680	2s. 6d.
1905	8,870	874,625	2s. 6d.
1906	8,744	732,136	3s. 3d.
1907	8,451	789,495	2s. 6d.
1908	8,350	715,418	2s. 7d.
1909	7,738	824,008	3s. 0d.
1910	7,426	639,007	2s. 11d.
1911	7,300	564,819	2s. 11d.

As regards the acreage under cultivation it will be seen that the tendency is towards decline. This is, of course, due to the much greater attention paid to rubber, the Ceylon yield of which last year was nearly 4,000,000 lb. It is therefore natural that less and less attention will be devoted to a spice like cardamoms, the demand for which must always be limited, in spite of attempts to seek new markets. The first table on the next page shows the distribution of Ceylon cardamoms during the past four years. It will be seen from this that the United Kingdom last year received about 40 per cent. of the total exports from Ceylon. Germany was the second best customer, after which followed India, her imports last year showing a considerable decline as compared with the previous three years. The United States imports more than doubled,



and Turkey also shows a big increase. Scandinavia has also come forward as a buyer on a larger scale.

	1903	1909	1910	1911
United Kingdom ...	219,690	286,901	224,747	239,121
Belgium ...	—	1,854	—	—
France ...	3,596	7,673	9,233	—
Germany ...	73,836	121,908	102,257	106,827
Holland ...	—	—	3,250	4,572
Denmark ...	21,245	6,100	1,120	6,720
Italy ...	104	560	—	732
Russia ...	—	2,601	4,228	2,290
Scandinavia ...	586	2,491	2,710	6,382
Turkey ...	31,298	34,987	15,311	26,635
India ...	327,609	182,071	233,598	98,605
Egypt ...	—	—	6,168	7,729
United States ...	9,635	56,995	28,561	58,861
Africa ...	12,837	9,222	60	—
China ...	3,189	4,274	2,154	2,107
Straits Settlements ...	5,399	6,303	5,610	3,679
Approximate totals ...	715,418	824,008	639,007	564,819

We next show the exports from India during the following years ending March 31 :

To	1905-6	1906-7	1907-8	1908-9	1909-10
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
United Kingdom ...	71,206	55,085	20,790	81,607	145,749
Germany ...	17,753	16,433	4,680	13,794	39,622
Egypt ...	13,347	14,849	18,405	23,765	22,620
Aden ...	32,155	26,668	24,361	21,392	23,584
Arabia, Muscat or Oman	43,510	13,949	12,791	5,734	10,525
Other Native States	58,457	40,469	7,790	1,692	168
Ceylon ...	10,558	2,858	7,236	112	41,020
Persia ...	14,046	3,579	12,238	33,219	21,406
Turkey, Asiatic—					
Ports in the Red Sea and Persian Gulf	14,208	3,268	63,703	57,674	69,181
Other Countries ...	20,150	25,216	28,464	20,766	31,819
	255,390	202,374	200,688	259,425	405,994

The values were respectively 19,834*l.*, 14,611*l.*, 15,437*l.*, 20,278*l.*, and 30,503*l.*

One of the most important districts in Ceylon is Matale, and at the last annual general meeting of the local Planters' Association, held on January 27, 1912, it was reported that the crop in that district was about four-fifths that of the previous year. This was owing to the drought which prevailed from January to June, also during August, when many of the racemes died, and where they did survive blossoms failed to fructify. The short crops generally, with diminishing stocks in London and other markets, caused prices to rise on all grades, the increase at date (January) being 9*d.* per lb., with an upward tendency. Although prospects have improved lately, the total shipments during 1912 will, in the opinion of growers, not exceed the 1911 crop, as several of the older cardamom fields are ceasing to bear a paying crop and will be planted up with tea. There are very few young clearings (the report states) coming into bearing to maintain the quantity. One of the features of the London drug-market this year has been the remarkable falling-off in the quantity of cardamoms offered at the fortnightly auctions. This is, of course, due to the paucity of arrivals from Ceylon, from whence we have only received 3,593 lb. from January 1 to February 5, which is 16,076 lb. less than at the same date of last year. Altogether, the exports from the island for this period were 22,495 lb., as against 49,005 lb., or 26,510 lb. less. It is surprising that Germany has already received direct this year 11,043 lb., which is a contrast as compared with the U.K. figures. India has only taken 4,348 lb. this year, as against 10,527 lb. Norway and Sweden have come forward as bigger consumers with imports of 1,042 lb., but the United States has not shown much activity as yet. As a rule the offerings of carda-

momms at auction forms one of the staples, and the market is keenly followed by the agents for Continental and American buyers, who are usually able to appraise their values to a penny before the auction takes place. They know exactly what certain qualities and marks are worth, but occasionally the competition for the selected lots of extra bold pale is very keen, and realises several pence above valuations. However, as already stated, the leading drug-brokers have had very little to dispose of lately, and the same applies to the tea-brokers, who formerly had large offerings. On one occasion we remember, when the quantity was unusually large, a characteristic protest was made by Mr. Charles Umney at the drug-auctions, who referred to the amount of time wasted by wholesale druggists who were only slightly interested in the spice. It has been the exception lately and not the rule to offer a moderate quantity. This clearly illustrates that the planting methods in Ceylon are undergoing a change. In former years the cultivation was a very acceptable by-product to tea-planters and was a source of additional profit. In fact, at one period the trade in cardamoms was so considerable that the Indian spice had to give way to Ceylon, which swamped the markets to such an extent that prices ceased to pay. This was about 1903 and 1904, when 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. was the top price paid in London during the mid-season, exports at that time approaching nearly 1,000,000 lb. Now it would appear that cardamoms are giving way to rubber cultivation, and the output last year was the lowest for the past decade. In former years Calcutta has been a keen competitor with Europe for cardamoms, but last year, as our table shows, the demand shows an extraordinary falling-off. India prefers the green cured article, which it has been asserted possesses markedly greater flavour and aromatic properties than the sulphured and bleached article demanded by London and the Continent. It is, of course, to the advantage of the planter to sell as much as possible to India, as that means less shipments for London and better prices here. The Indian, however, is particular about the quality of his green cardamoms. They have to be artificially dried and sent off promptly. If kept many days they will turn white, and will not be readily bought as greens, although they have not been bleached. It may be recalled that in 1905 a Cardamom Cess Committee was formed in Kandy, Ceylon, to increase consumption of the spice and find new markets. With this object the planters, with Government aid, instituted an export tax of 1*c.* per lb., and with the money raised commissioners visited the various centres, including London, Hamburg, Bremen, Leipsic, and other German towns, also Russia and Australia. Elaborate and interesting reports which were referred to in the *C. & D.* were furnished, but, looking back from this distance of time, it cannot be said that there has been any definite expansion in consumption of the spice as the result of their efforts. Although the idea of exploiting new markets was the main object of the Cardamom Cess Committee, yet there was a great desire to be less dependent on London, where prices had ruled very low, when the export tax was imposed in 1905. More direct relations were entered into with Germany and the United States. Buyers and shippers in some instances went to the consumers themselves, and this in turn irritated the middleman. Later the question of establishing auctions of cardamoms in Colombo was seriously discussed, but the scheme never came to fruition.

In the course of the annual report of the Planters' Association of Kandy, Ceylon, just to hand, it is stated that the crop shipped, 564,819 lb., during 1911 included a large share of the previous year's harvest and the early spring gatherings. With a favourable season, the present estimate of cardamoms for 1912 is 560,000 lb. only, as several of the older fields have ceased to bear paying crops and are being planted with tea, while the new acreage coming into bearing is very small. A cess of 1*c.* per lb. on all cardamoms shipped from Ceylon during 1911 was suggested by the Cess Committee for the purpose of continuing advertising. The proposition met with a fair amount of promised support, but not sufficient to carry on the advertising considered desirable.

E

# National Insurance Dispensing.

## II. Dispensing Charges.

By H. C. Richards.

STORE prices will probably be made the basis of charging under the National Insurance Act. Representatives of the Army and Navy Stores, the Boots companies, and other companies are upon the Committee which has been organised by the Pharmaceutical Council to look after the interests of chemists under the Act, and it is not to be expected that a premium upon the prices charged by such traders will be put forward.

The system of pricing that I think might meet with general approval is as follows: All drugs must have a "Starting Weight" and "Starting Price."

**Starting Weight** is 1 lb., 1 oz., 5j., and 1 grain; the starting weight of a drug is determined by the cost price. A drug which costs up to 6s. per lb. has a starting weight of 1 lb.; over 6s. per lb. and up to 6s. per oz., starting weight 1 oz.; over 6s. per oz. and under 2s. 6d. per drachm, starting weight 5j.; over 2s. 6d. per drachm, starting

Drugs costing over 2s. 6d. per drachm are calculated on actual cost of 1 grain—thus, the cost of the quantity for the prescription is calculated; if it is less than 6d. add 25 per cent., if over 6d. add 10 per cent.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. being the smallest fraction of 1d.

It may be said this is far too complicated to work out in the ordinary course of business. I quite agree, and do not intend that the chemist should do it. A price list should be issued by the authorities, say every quarter, worked out on this principle, and all the chemist has to do is to turn this up and he will find his prices worked out and the more common preparations. He will soon commit these to memory, and it should become quite an easy matter to price prescriptions. It would be a great advantage to state the maximum quantity for  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. against each item, and each item should have the price of the next weight to the starting weight, to save time—thus 5s. 6d. per lb. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz.; but the smaller quantities should be an accurate division of the price of the last quantity, calculating 437 $\frac{1}{2}$  grains and 7 drachms to the oz. solids and 480m. and 8 dr. to the oz. liquids, the smallest charge for any one ingredient to be  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Here is an example of the arrangement of the price list I should suggest:

	List Price	1 lb.	1 oz.	5j.	gr. x.	gr. j.	Maximum quantity for $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Ac. nitro-hydrochlor. dil. ...	4d. lb.	6d.	$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	1 oz.
Aloin. ...	5d. oz.	—	9d.	—	—	—	gr. 20
Aq. menth. pip. conc. 1=40 ...	5s. lb.	5s. 6d.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	℥ 43
Atropin. sulph. ...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. gr.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bismuth. carb. ...	10s. 3d. lb.	—	1s.	2d.	—	—	gr. 15
Cocaine hydrochlor. ...	10s. 9d. oz.	—	—	2s.	5d.	—	gr. j.
Cod. ein. ...	25s. oz.	—	—	—	—	1d.	—
Glycerin. ...	109s. ext.	1s. 6d.	2d.	—	—	—	5ij.
Glycerin. pepsin. ...	4s. 2d. lb.	4s. 6d.	6d.	—	—	—	℥ 40
Inf. gent. co. eme. 1=7 ...	1s. 6d. lb.	1s. 6d.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	℥ 160
Pulv. ext. bellad. ...	6d. oz.	—	9d.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	gr. 20
Pulv. ext. cascara sag. ...	5s. 3d. lb.	5s. 6d.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	gr. 39
Pulv. ext. nucis vom. ...	11d. oz.	—	1s.	2d.	—	—	gr. 15
Pulv. pro pil. coloc. co. ...	10s. lb.	—	1s.	2d.	—	—	gr. 15
Pil. hydrarg. ...	2s. 4d. lb.	2s. 6d.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	gr. 87
Pyramidon. ...	5s. oz.	—	5s. 6d.	11d.	—	—	gr. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sodii bicarb. ...	9s. ext.	3d.	—	—	—	—	2oz.
Syr. aurant. ...	11d. lb.	1s.	1d.	—	—	—	5iv.
Syr. aurantii ...	4s. 6d. lb.	5s.	5d.	—	—	—	℥ 42
Tr. belladonnae ...	4s. 4d.	4s.	4d.	—	—	—	℥ 51
Tr. nucis vom. ...	3s. 6d. lb.	4s. 6d.	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	℥ 53
Ung. zinci ...	4s. 2d. lb.	4s. 3d.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.	—	—	—	gr. 146
Veronal. ...	1s. lb.	—	5s. 6d.	11d.	—	—	gr. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
	5s. 2d. oz.	—	—	—	—	—	—

weight 1 grain. Thus all drugs can be brought under a regular starting weight.

**Starting Price.** To get this take the list price and divide it down as follows until it comes within one of the prices of the starting weights:

- 1 cwt. divide by 100 for 1 lb. liquids and solids
- 1 lb. " " 12\* for 1 oz. liquids by measure, solids
- 1 oz. " " 6 for 1 drachm [by weight]
- 1 drachm " " 5 for 10 gr.
- 1 grain, work from actual cost price

\* Solids; aqueous preparations and tinctures of about the same sp. gr. divide by 12, glycerins and syrups by 9, ethers and essential and fixed oils by 15.

Having divided the cost down as above, the next thing is to add a few pence to bring it to a round price. This will allow for a slight difference in prices of the various houses. Drugs that come out at 1s. 3d. or less are made up to the next 3d.—thus, 7d. made up to 9d., 11d. to 1s., and so on; over 1s. 3d. are made up to the next 6d.—thus, 1s. 8d. to 2s., 3s. 11d. to 4s., etc.; so that the starting price is in threepences or sixpences, for example:

List price, 4s. 2d. lb.; being less than 6s. lb., starting weight 1 lb., make up to next 6d.=4s. 6d. lb. starting price.

Cost 10d. oz.; being less than 6s. oz., starting weight 1 oz., make up to next 3d., costing under 1s. 3d.=1s. per oz. starting price.

List price, 10s. 9d. oz.; being over 6s. oz., divide by 6 to get 1 drachm price=1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., make up to next 6=2s. 5j. starting price.

These prices are intended to cover the cost of corks, labels, paper, chip boxes, pill boxes, powder boxes, and waste, and perhaps it would help pay a portion of the carriage.

Dispensing fee—2d. per article.

Time.—Dispenser's time 1s. per hour, and different processes should have a time allowance, thus:

A simple mixture of 3 or 4 liquids, 5 minutes 1d.

A mixture containing powders to be rubbed down in a mortar, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  minutes, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

To make 24 pills, 15 minutes, 3d.

To make an ointment, 10 or 15 minutes according to contents, 2d. or 3d.

1 doz. cachets with more than one ingredient, 15 minutes, 3d.

$\frac{1}{2}$  doz. powders, more than one ingredient, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  minutes, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

1 doz. powders, more than one ingredient, 10 minutes, 2d.

Simple emulsion, 12 minutes, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Sterilised solution: Aq. dest. to sterilise utensils, aq. dest. to make solution, gas and making solution, 6d.

To make suppositories, pessaries, or bougies, up to 1 doz, 4d., after first doz. 2d. per doz.

Examples:

Cod. ein. gr. 12	s. d.	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bism. carb. 5ij.	...	4
Ext. nucis vom. gr. 6	...	...	Sod. bicarb. 5ij.	...	1
Ext. cascara sag. gr. 24	...	...	Aq. menth. pip. ad 5vj.	...	1
Ft. pil. 24	...	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$			5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Time	...	3	Time	...	1
Fee	...	2	Fee	...	2
	...	1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bottle	...	1
					9 $\frac{1}{2}$



Gutt. atropin. 1% 3ij. ...	2	Tr. nucis vom. 3ij. ...	1½
Bottle ...	1	Ae. nitro-hyd. dil. 3ij. ...	1½
		Inf. gent. ad 3vj. ...	1
		Bottle ...	1
Time ...	3		
Fee ...	2	Time ...	4
		Fee ...	2
	6		
(Send 110 min.=1 gr.)			7
Pil. hydrarg. gr. 48 ...	½		
Pil. coloc. co. gr. 48 ...	2		
Ft. pil. 24	2½	Veronal. gr. v. ...	11
		Mitte xij. ...	
Time ...	3	Time ...	2
Fee ...	2	Fee ...	2
	7½		1 3

I think this system will cover every branch of pharmacy, and the remuneration strikes me as reasonable. The prices are in some cases above store retail prices, but they must be dismissed because they are not systematically arranged. Mine are, therefore they work out most fairly to all concerned.

## WESTMINSTER WISDOM.

The Week in Parliament.

### PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY.

This Bill has already been read a second time, and will come before the Select Committee of the House of Lords on Tuesday, March 12.

### THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

Mr. Theodore Taylor, M.P., has given notice of his intention to bring forward in the House of Commons a resolution calling attention to the opium traffic in the Eastern dependencies of the British Empire.

### VIVISECTION INQUIRY.

The final report of the long-drawn-out inquiry into the question of vivisection was laid on the table of the House of Commons on Tuesday evening, and its early publication may be therefore expected.

### SHOPS REGULATION ACTS.

In the House of Lords on Monday, March 4, the Bill to consolidate the Shops Regulation Acts, 1892 to 1911, was read a second time, after the Lord Chancellor had explained that it is purely a consolidating Bill which does not alter the law.

### MANUFACTURE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The Home Secretary has informed Mr. Gill that no figures are available showing the number of persons employed in factories or workshops in 1907 in warehouse processes in the manufacture of food, drugs, perfumes, blacking, starch, blue, etc.

### WANDSWORTH, WIMBLEDON, AND EPSOM GAS BILLS.

The second reading of this Bill was carried in the House of Lords on Monday, March 4, and it was referred to a Committee which will shortly be set up and before which evidence will be tendered on behalf of the Alkali Manufacturers' Association and other bodies.

### WEEKLY REST DAY.

Mr. G. Lansbury's Weekly Rest Day Bill has now been published. It provides for one day's rest in seven for all workpeople, makes May 1 a Bank Holiday, and proposes to secure a week's holiday for workpeople, and the payment of wages for public holidays. It is backed by Mr. Pointer, Mr. W. Horne, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. Adamson, Mr. Tyson Wilson, Mr. Gill, and Mr. Crooks.

### INFECTION BY TELEPHONE.

Dr. Addison, M.P., who is one of the few members of the medical profession in the House of Commons, proposes to call the attention of the Postmaster-General to the dangers which are supposed to arise from the use of telephones by persons suffering from open tuberculosis. There

is reason to believe that certain experiments have recently been undertaken by the Post Office, and that Mr. Herbert Samuel will be in a position to assure the House and the country that there is no such danger to be apprehended as is anticipated in the question.

### EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS.

Mr. J. Ellis Griffith, M.P., Under-Secretary for the Home Office, received a deputation at the Home Office on Tuesday, March 5, from the Early Closing Association, regarding the Shops Act, 1911-12. The deputation urged that the Early Closing Association was the most efficient machine to carry out the conditions of the Act, and asked whether the Home Secretary, on behalf of the Government, was disposed to guarantee a continuance of their work at an estimated cost in London of 2,000*l.* per annum, and of 5,000*l.* throughout the kingdom. Mr. Ellis Griffith, in the course of his reply, stated that it is not the Home Office but local authorities who have to carry out the provisions of the Act.

### INDUSTRIAL POISONING.

Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, M.P., asked the Home Secretary in the House of Commons on Monday whether he could give the number of cases of industrial poisoning reported in 1910-12. The Home Secretary replied that the cases of industrial poisoning by lead, mercury, arsenic, and anthrax in factories and workshops notified under Section 73 of the Factory Act numbered, in 1910, 573, of which forty-eight were fatal; in 1911, 755, of which forty-four were fatal; in January of this year, forty-two, of which seven were fatal. There have been no cases of phosphorus-poisoning since 1909. Cases of industrial poisoning from other causes and in other industries are not required to be notified to the Home Office.

### PATENT-MEDICINE INQUIRY.

Mr. A. Lynch, M.P., asked the Home Secretary in the House of Commons on Monday, March 4, whether he has decided upon the constitution of the joint committee which is to be appointed to inquire into the traffic in patent medicines and allied matters, and whether in view of the difficulty of disassociating the question of the sale of such drugs from that of the illicit practice of medicine he will consent to enlarge the scope of the inquiry so as to include these matters on the terms of reference. Mr. McKenna replied that the answer to the first part of the question was in the negative; in regard to the second part he begged to refer the hon. member to a reply which he gave to a similar question on December 13 last.

[In December the Home Secretary (Mr. Churchill) said, in reply to Mr. Lynch's question, that "he did not think it would be wise to extend the scope of the inquiry beyond patent medicines."—*C. & D.*, 1911, II., 892.]

### LEGISLATION DEALING WITH ANÆSTHETICS.

Our Parliamentary correspondent is informed that the draft Bill and Memorandum which were prepared some time ago by Sir F. W. Hewitt, Anæsthetist to the Royal Household, is still in the possession of the Home Office, and that a question will shortly be directed to Mr. McKenna for the purpose of eliciting some information as to the intentions of the Government in introducing legislation on this question during the present Session. The whole matter, it may be remembered, was dealt with in the course of a special report which was made by the Departmental Committee on Coroners' Law, which sat under the chairmanship of Sir Mackenzie Chalmers, and before which Sir F. W. Hewitt gave evidence. The Bill which he drafted for the consideration of the Government was based to a large extent upon the recommendations of the Committee. It required compulsory notification to the Coroner of all deaths under anæsthetics, that no general respirable anæsthetic should be administered by anyone save a duly qualified registered medical or dental practitioner, and that registered dentists should be restricted to the use of nitrous oxide gas.

THE IMPORTS of chemicals, drugs, etc., into the principal Morocco ports during 1910 amounted in value to 25,440*l.*, against 16,855*l.* in 1909. The United Kingdom supplied 1,738*l.*; France, 11,079*l.*; Spain, 8,205*l.*; Belgium, 2,135*l.*; and Germany, 1,704*l.* worth.

## BIRTHS.

**DARLING.**—At 161 Commercial Road, Portsmouth, on February 29, the wife of G. W. Darling, pharmacist, of a daughter.

**KELSEY.**—At Five Ways House, Sparkhill, Birmingham, on February 29, the wife of William Kelsey, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

**MIDDLETON-TAYLOR.**—At "Maryville," Southfield Road, Middlesbrough, on March 1, the wife of Hylton Middleton-Taylor, chemist and druggist, of a son.

**PROCTER.**—At 5 Station Parade, Eastbourne, on February 24, the wife of Alfred Procter, chemist and druggist, of a daughter.

**SAWYER.**—On February 23, the wife of A. E. Sawyer, chemist and druggist, 100 High Street, Southwold, of a daughter.

**TWIGG.**—At 44 Queen Street, Withersea, on March 4, the wife of John G. Twigg, chemist, of a daughter.

## MARRIAGE.

**JARDINE-KLERCK.**—At the Dutch Reform Church, Cape Town, on February 14, E. Blake Jardine, of the office staff of Meerss. Petersen, Ltd., Cape Town, to Elizabeth van der Eyl, daughter of the late J. R. G. Klerck, Woodstock, Cape Province.

## DEATHS.

**BOLTON.**—At Hastings, on February 23, Mr. Thomas Bolton, chemist and druggist, aged ninety-eight. Mr. Bolton was apprenticed at Bristol, afterwards gaining experience in London. He commenced business at Tenterden in 1841, retiring in 1863. He became a member of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1842.

**DALE.**—At "Roslyn," Wallington, Surrey, on February 27, Mr. James Dale, aged eighty-three. Mr. Dale was the senior partner in the firm bearing his name, which carries on the business of copper-smiths, at Emerson Street, Bankside, London, S.E.—a business whose history goes back to 1787. Mr. Dale was born in Upper Thames Street, London, and all his life was identified with the City. He was twice churchwarden of St. James's, Garlick Hill, and became a Liveryman of the Goldsmiths' Company fifty-seven years ago. He retired two or three years ago, and the business is now carried on by his son, Mr. J. S. Dale.

**GREENWOOD.**—On February 21, Mr. John Tatam Greenwood, Fern Lea, Hyde Road, Gorton, Manchester, aged seventy-six.

**HALLEY.**—At 214 Newhaven Road, Leith, on February 27, Elizabeth Milner, widow of William Halley, chemist, Leith.

**OXEN.**—At Cleveland House, Newcastle-under-Lyme, on March 3, Mr. David Hunter Oxen, chemist and druggist, 38 High Street and 4 Bridge Street, Newcastle, Staffs, aged forty-nine.

**SHIMOMAYA.**—At his residence in Shitaya, Tokyo, on February 12, Professor Jun-ichiro Shimoyama, Doctor of Pharmaceutical Science, aged sixty-one. Dr. Shimoyama founded the Tokyo School of Pharmacy. He was registered as a chemist in 1879, becoming a military pharmacist in 1881. Two years later he went to Germany to study manufacturing pharmacy, on his return being appointed Professor of the Tokyo Imperial University. Professor Shimoyama was on the committee of the Pharmacopœia of Japan, and a pharmaceutical examiner.

**TROUTBECK.**—At 6a Dean's Yard, Westminster, London, S.W., on February 29, Mr. John Troutbeck, M.A., B.C.L., aged fifty-one. Mr. Troutbeck, who became Coroner for Westminster in 1888, and for the South-Western District of London in 1902, was best known to chemists for his

strong opinions regarding the ethics of counter prescribing. He incurred the displeasure of the medical profession on two occasions, in 1903 and 1908. On the first occasion it was alleged that Mr. Troutbeck had employed a general practitioner under the title of "special pathologist," had withheld from the jury evidence from a medical practitioner in attendance, and had severely censured a medical man without having summoned him to attend. The second controversy was caused by insisting upon holding an inquest on a woman who died after an operation. Sir Victor Horsley was the operator. It is estimated that of late years Mr. Troutbeck held over 1,000 inquests per annum.

**STUART.**—At The Hope, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 3, Mr. Charles Edward Stuart, Ph.C., B.Sc., London, director of Brady & Martin, Ltd., aged fifty-four. Mr. Stuart had for some time back not been in robust health, and in October last it became necessary to excise certain enlarged glands. This was successful, and a period of convalescence at Torquay set him up so much that his colleagues looked forward to his return to business; but symptoms of a grave nature came on, and while his intellectual powers remained clear to the last, the end was comparatively rapid. Mr. Stuart was the eldest son of the late Mr. John Edward Stuart, who was a partner with Mr. John Carteighe in the firm of Dinneford & Co., Bond Street. He was apprenticed to Mr. J. B. Barnes, of Knightsbridge, and during his apprenticeship attended the School of Pharmacy, taking a botany and materia medica certificate in 1876. In October 1878 he passed the Minor examination, and the Major in February 1879. Also during his apprenticeship he passed the Intermediate B.Sc. of London University. Soon after he went to Newcastle as an assistant to Mr. N. H. Martin, who had in 1876 succeeded Mr. H. B. Brady in the business founded by him in 1866. Mr. Stuart remained with Brady & Martin about two years, when he left to complete his studies for the B.Sc. After taking his degree he returned to Newcastle and became a partner with Mr. Martin in 1884. In an historical sketch of the business we find this tribute to Mr. Stuart:



Mr. C. E. Stuart.

"The assistance of an expert practical pharmacist, possessed also of an intimate knowledge of the scientific subjects represented in the business, was felt to be a necessity if the work was to be continued on the lines that had hitherto been characteristic of it. Such help was available in the person of Mr. C. E. Stuart, who had already had some years' acquaintance with the business, and who became a partner in 1884, and was thus able to relieve the head of the firm of the responsibility for the oversight of a great amount of detail which had hitherto occupied his time."

In 1898 Dr. W. Martin was admitted to the partnership, and in 1903 the business was converted into a private company, the three partners becoming the directors. Mr. Stuart devoted himself to the chemical and pharmaceutical sides of the business, and he was a man of high scientific attainments. He published occasional papers, one of the most notable being on "Animal Extracts," which he communicated to the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1894. Mr. N. H. Martin, writing to us in regard to his colleague, says:

"Mr. Stuart was a man with an extremely high sense of duty. The thing that seemed right to him was the compelling force with him, but, though holding firmly to his own opinions, he was always tolerant of other people's views. He was of strong and steadfast character, but of retiring disposition, and it was only those who knew him intimately, or who had the privilege of being associated with him year by year in daily work, who could realise in anything like full measure his solid scientific attainments, the breadth of his erudition, and the sterling worth of his fine character."



## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### Council-meeting.

THE monthly meeting was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., on March 6. The meeting was a short one and there were three absentees among the councillors. A further portion of the Carteighe legacy has been received and figures with interest in the receipts to the General Fund. The Finance Committee submitted the financial statement for 1911, which is given in a comparative form and in abstract at the end of this report. The Benevolent Fund expended 99*l.* 10*s.* in granting relief to seven applicants. The Local Associations Committee reported, the successful meetings at Newcastle and London being especially referred to. Preparations for Sir William Tilden's lecture next month involve expenditure towards which the sum of 5*l.* has been sanctioned. The Council are resolved to forward to the Privy Council alterations in the Poisons Schedule, the definition of sulphonal in Part II. being extended to "sulphonal, its derivatives and poisonous derivatives of mercaptol," and veronal being added to Part II. as "dithylbarbituric acid, other derivatives of barbituric acid, and all poisonous ureides and their derivatives." The Insurance Commissioners have asked the Society to submit names of pharmacists from which can be made two appointments to the Advisory Committee. Several names have been submitted.

THE councillors present were Mr. C. B. Allen (President), Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President), Mr. W. H. Gibson (Treasurer), and Messrs. F. E. Bilson, A. S. Campkin, W. G. Cross, J. H. Cuff, F. J. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, D. Gilmour, A. Hagon, J. F. Harrington, J. Harrison, E. T. Neathercoat, G. T. W. Newsholme, F. A. Rogers, P. F. Rowsell, and E. White.

### ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, 36 members and 22 student associates were elected, whilst 17 persons were restored to their former positions in the Society and four names were restored to the Register of Chemists and Druggists.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The TREASURER then presented the report of the Finance Committee. The receipts of the *General Fund* amounted to 4,009*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* with the balance on January 31. The receipts are made up as follows: Penalties and costs, 145*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*; subscriptions, 1,890*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*; "Journal" and publications, 1,267*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*; school fees, 13*l.* 13*s.*; registration fees, 107*l.* 2*s.*; restoration fees, 2*l.* 2*s.*; legacy and interest (late Michael Carteighe), 527*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.*; rent, 54*l.* 2*s.* 11*d.* The balance remaining after making the payments authorised last month was 1,488*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* The sums recommended for payment amounted to 2,835*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*, made up as follows: "Journal" and publications, 897*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*; stationery, etc., 21*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.*; current expenses, 400*l.*; salaries, etc., 952*l.* 7*s.*; school and examinations, 57*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*; law charges, 9*l.* 10*s.*; house, 180*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*; library, 7*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*; register and calendar, 309*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.* The balance on the *Benevolent Fund* general account was shown as 1,053*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*; donation account, 34*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*; and on the Orphan Fund, 87*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*

Moving the adoption of the report, the Treasurer said the balances were almost identical with what they were a year ago, whilst the amounts for payment are about 400*l.* less. The balance on the Benevolent Fund is slightly larger, owing to the way the fund has been supported. A donation has been received from the West Ham Association of Pharmacists of 4*l.* 1*s.*, and legacies of 25*l.* from the estate of the late J. E. Pinch (Bristol) and 500*l.* (less legacy duty) from Stephen Darby's estate.

The report was adopted and the Treasurer was

authorised to pay to each of the Jacob Bell scholars the second moiety of their scholarships.

### BENEVOLENT FUND.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was taken *in camera*, after which

Mr. F. J. GIBSON (Chairman), in moving the adoption of the report, commented on the healthy condition of the Fund, for which the Council are much indebted to their friends in the country. There were eight applications for assistance; one was deferred, and the amount granted to the rest was 99*l.* 10*s.*

The report was adopted.

### LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. NEATHERCOAT presented the report of this Committee, which dealt with the meetings that had been held or have been arranged during February. He said the character of the report does not need much explanation; the work is going on in the usual satisfactory way. The Committee has circularised the Local Associations informing them that the Council has put in operation the Federation scheme. Although this information was only conveyed a few days ago, it has met with a satisfactory reception and the encouraging co-operation of the Local Associations. The Newcastle meeting was very successful and gave the Society's officers an opportunity of gaining first-hand information of local conditions. The attendance—200—is a record so far as these meetings are concerned. The London meeting held last week was attended by between 140 and 150 pharmacists; the number attending is increasing with the popularity of the scheme.

Mr. HARRISON, seconding the adoption of the report, referred to the cordial character of the Newcastle meeting, which gave a great amount of satisfaction. Mr. Woolcock gave a lucid explanation of the National Insurance Act, and evidence was obtained of the wide interest in the Act as it affects pharmacists and citizens of the Empire. Pharmacists, at any rate, are showing a distinct and sincere desire to work the Act in a spirit of loyalty and are looking to the Society for guidance as to the best way of bringing into action the medical-benefit section. There is some doubt, owing to the attitude of medical men, whether the section will be operative; but now that the Act is on the Statute Book pharmacists will set their houses in order and work the Act to the benefit of the community and themselves. Mr. Harrison also referred to the Sunderland meeting and to the benefit of having an officer whose services are devoted to this work alone.

The PRESIDENT said the London meeting was certainly one of the best business-meetings he had attended for some time. The address of Mr. Woolcock was one which made him proud that he (the President) had such an officer. The Act was lucidly explained, and at the conclusion those present must have had a much clearer understanding of the Act than they had before.

Mr. GIFFORD paid a tribute to the spirit he had encountered on his visit to Cardiff. He found among local chemists a most remarkable familiarity with the Act.

The report was adopted.

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee was presented by Mr. WHITE. This submitted for payment an account for 4*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* for house repairs and recommended that the Dean be authorised to spend up to 5*l.* on making preparations for Sir William Tilden's lecture on April 25. Another paragraph referred to the renewal of the lease of 15 Bloomsbury Square, which the tenant is willing to take on the same terms but desires the Society to wire the house for electric lighting.

Mr. ROWSELL seconded the adoption of the report and said the Society should not agree to wiring 15 Bloomsbury Square.

The report was adopted.

### APPRENTICES REGISTERED.

The Registrar reported that he had registered during the month 51 apprentices or students.

### THE POISONS SCHEDULE.

The report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee stated that it had received a report of the first

meeting of the Provisional Insurance Committee and also confidential details of correspondence with the Insurance Commissioners. Mr. White had provided a form of wording for the purpose of revising the sulphonal entry in the Poisons Schedule and adding veronal and similar bodies. This was embodied in the following resolution, which was adopted in statutory manner:

That by virtue and in exercise of the powers vested in the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain by Section 2 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, as modified by Section 2 of the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, the said Council does hereby resolve and declare as follows: (a) That "sulphonal" be removed from Part II. of the schedule to the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908, and that "sulphonal, its derivatives, and the poisonous derivatives of mercaptol," be substituted therefor. (b) That "diethyl-barbituric acid and other derivatives of barbituric acid and all poisonous ureides and their derivatives" ought to be deemed poisons within the meaning of the Pharmacy Acts, and ought to be added to Part II. of the schedule to the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1908.

#### NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

The PRESIDENT referred with satisfaction to the fact that the Society had received from the Commissioners of the Insurance Act a letter asking them to nominate pharmacists from whom two persons could be appointed on the Advisory Committee. The request was submitted to the Standing Committee and a number of names furnished to the Commissioners, from whom, no doubt, a report will be received in due course. The Council had represented to the Commissioners the advisability of having pharmacists on the Advisory Committee.

#### OTHER MATTERS.

The drafting of the annual report was left with the Library Committee.

Four divisional secretaries were appointed, the services of Mr. Hagon being requisitioned for reading the names of the Welsh towns.

The Grimsby Association protested against the absence of representatives from the East Coast on the Provisional Committee on Insurance. The matter has been dealt with partly by the Assistant Secretary and was referred to the Standing Committee on Insurance.

The Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association asked for copies of the Register and Calendar, and the request was granted.

The Hull Association of Pharmacists wrote regarding dispensing by medical men under the National Insurance Act. This letter was handed over to the Standing Committee on Insurance.

This concluded the public business.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

##### General Fund Account.

##### Expenditure (two years compared).

	1910. £ s. d.	1911. £ s. d.
To Advertisements ... ..	3 10 0	3 10 0
Annuities ... ..	300 0 0	300 0 0
Carriage of Books and Parcels ... ..	8 13 4	8 9 2
Certificates of Death ... ..	21 14 2	21 17 11
Examinations: Minor and Major:—		
Fees to Examiners and Travelling Expenses—		
England and Wales ... ..	1,144 3 7	1,064 15 0
Scotland ... ..	414 7 0	440 8 0
Refreshments—England and Wales ... ..	36 2 9	34 4 9
Scotland ... ..	27 14 9	25 3 11
Apparatus, Drugs, Chemicals, Printing, and sundry charges—England and Wales ... ..	294 6 1	270 6 10
Scotland ... ..	105 5 2	98 2 10
[Totals £2,021 19s. 4d. £1,933 18s. 4d.]		
Furniture ... ..	78 15 0	17 7 6
Gas, Electric Light, Water, Coal, Cleaning, Materials, etc. ... ..	326 14 4	319 0 1
House Servants—Wages ... ..	285 6 0	269 2 0
"Pharmaceutical Journal": Balance of Account ... ..	1,683 13 8	2,201 2 7
Law Costs ... ..	514 3 0	214 18 2
Library:—Librarian's Salary ... ..	300 0 0	300 0 0
Purchase and Binding of Books, etc. ... ..	79 0 2	78 19 0
Library Catalogue ... ..	—	147 13 4
[Totals £379 0s. 2d. £526 12s. 4d.]		
Museum:—		
Curator ... ..	400 0 0	400 0 0
Assistant's Wages and Sundry Expenses for Bottles, etc. ... ..	128 12 6	109 0 6
[Totals £528 12s. 6d. £509 0s. 6d.]		

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
North British Branch:—		
Assistant Secretary and Clerks—		
Salary ... ..	491 12 0	498 2 0
Taxes and Insurance ... ..	73 0 5	72 18 6
Members of Executive—Travelling Expenses, etc. ... ..	50 7 2	96 14 5
Fuel, Light, Water, Cleaning, Service, and Miscellaneous Expenses ... ..	406 16 2	440 18 7
[Totals £1,021 15s. 9d. £1,108 13s. 6d.]		
Evening and other Meetings ... ..	65 1 2	49 3 6
Postage:—General ... ..	203 9 0	222 8 2
"Journal" ... ..	1,005 1 2	930 14 0
[Totals £1,208 10s. 2d. £1,153 2s. 2d.]		
Register—Balance of Account ... ..	30 0 6	28 5 4
Rent, Taxes, and Insurance ... ..	1,048 3 10	1,323 6 7
Premium on Leasehold Redemption Policies ... ..	128 2 6	128 2 6
Repairs and Alterations ... ..	562 15 9	234 14 10
Electric Service and Fittings ... ..	95 19 0	56 3 3
Salaries:—Secretary and Registrar ... ..	600 0 0	600 0 0
Clerks ... ..	1,343 13 0	1,406 8 7
[Totals £1,943 13s. £2,006 8s. 7d.]		
School of Pharmacy and Research Laboratory:—		
Stipends of Professors and Share of Fees ... ..	1,238 6 0	1,279 15 4
Lecturer, Assistant Lecturer, and Demonstrators and Wages of Porters ... ..	760 19 6	766 12 2
Alteration and Fitting-up Laboratory Apparatus, Chemicals, Specimens for Lecture Classes, Prize Medals, Certificates, Printing and Posting Prospectuses, and Alterations ... ..	617 6 2	600 3 6
New Fume Chamber and Painting and Decorating Lecture Theatre ... ..	—	80 1 0
[Totals £2,616 11s. 8d. £2,726 12s.]		
Reception by the President ... ..	—	46 6 6
Brussels Congress—Expenses of Delegates Stationery, Printing, and Office Expenses ... ..	22 11 10	0 0 0
Calendar: Balance of Account ... ..	343 6 0	312 6 11
Sundries ... ..	139 7 9	132 8 2
Sundries ... ..	14 1 2	29 19 6
Cost of conducting Prize and Scholarships Examinations ... ..	16 14 2	13 17 10
Medals—Council and Herbarium Prizes ... ..	2 19 3	5 9 0
Travelling Expenses—Council and Committees ... ..	474 10 5	540 17 0
Refreshments for Council ... ..	60 2 9	66 11 0
Local Organisation and Parliamentary Expenses: Meetings, etc. ... ..	369 5 5	696 17 3
Telephone Service ... ..	20 0 0	21 10 0
British Pharmaceutical Codex (Balance of Account) ... ..	402 8 5	584 4 3
Fees to Chartered Accountant ... ..	—	78 15 0
Furniture ... ..	—	—
	£16,738 2 0	—
Balance added to Accumulated Funds ... ..	63 3 0	—
	£16,806 5 0	£17,667 16 11

##### Income (two years compared).

By Examination Fees:—		
Minor (1,038 in '10, 908 in '11) ... ..	6,169 4 0	5,651 10 0
Major (64 in '10, 79 in '11) ... ..	181 14 0	219 10 0
Modified (1 in '09, 1 in '10) ... ..	10 10 0	—
Registration Fees as Students (398 in '10, 505 in '11) ... ..	835 16 0	1,069 10 0
Fees for Restoration to Register ... ..	38 17 0	40 19 0
Certificates of Qualification ... ..	54 1 0	48 17 0
[Totals £7,290 2s. £7,021 6s.]		
Interest on Investments:—		
Water Board Stock ... ..	—	16 19 6
Loan to Benevolent Fund ... ..	—	14 11 8
Ground Rents ... ..	145 19 4	209 10 6
Net Rent of 15 Bloomsbury Square ... ..	182 13 8	182 13 8
[Totals £328 13s. £423 14s. 10d.]		
School Fees ... ..	1,619 12 6	1,599 13 6
Subscriptions:—		
Members (6,672 in '10, 6,735 in '11) ... ..	7,005 12 0	7,017 15 0
Student Associates (471 in '10, 463 in '11) ... ..	247 5 6	243 1 6
Life Subscriptions ... ..	315 0 0	294 0 0
[Totals £7,567 17s. 6d. £7,608 16s. 6d.]		
Balance deducted from Accumulated Funds ... ..	—	1,014 6 1
	£16,806 5 0	£17,667 16 11

##### 1910 Balance-sheet of the General Fund.

The assets of the Society, consisting of ground-rents, freehold house and building in Edinburgh, freehold and leasehold premises in London, and Metropolitan Water Board (B) stock, amount to 36,237l. 2s. 8d.; sundry debtors, 3,665l. 8s.; and cash in hand on December 31, 1911, 133l. 1s. 2d.; loan to Benevolent Fund, 1,000l.; total, 41,035l. 11s. 10d. The liabilities are sundry creditors, 2,365l. 6s. 8d.; examination-fees in advance, 1,402l. 19s.; school-fees in advance, 822l. 16s. 6d.; accumulated funds, 35,453l. 9s. 8d.; add Michael Carteghe's legacy, 1,000l.; total, 36,453l. 9s. 8d.



*The Benevolent Fund.*

During 1911 the receipts amounted to 3,083l. 6s. 9d., made up of subscriptions, 1,509l. 7s. 2d.; ground-rents, 1,320l. 2s.; dividends, 131l. 3s. 5d.; and rent of "The Elms," Strawberry Hill, 122l. 14s. 2d. The expenditure was 2,873l. 5s. 5d., comprising annuities, 1,450l.; grants, 1,254l. 6s.; interest, 118l.; stationery, etc., 51l. 1s. 9d.; law, etc., 4l. 17s. 8d. The balance added to the accumulated funds was 205l. 1s. 4d. The investments and other assets of the fund are valued at 44,948l. 15s. 7d.

*The Orphan Fund*

had a revenue of 232l. 14s. 4d., and spent 90l., leaving a balance of 142l. 14s. 4d.

Reports of the scholarships and Waterall Legacy accounts are also given.

The following auditors testify to the correctness of the reports: Messrs. Isaiah Bourdas, Geo. Bult Francis, Charles Hodgkinson, and F. Harwood Lescher.

## OUR TOWN TRAVELLER.

### THE ORIGIN OF WARNOL.

On a hint of further developments in the business of Messrs. Warner Oliver, Ltd., 4 Holles Street, London, W., a C. & D. representative called in search of information. "Tell me," said the C. & D. man, "something about the origin of Warnol. Was it an inspiration, an accidental discovery, or what?" "Now, I am glad you ask me that," said Mr. Oliver, as he proceeded to unfold the reasons which led to the production of his hair preparations. There was not disclosed any of the romance which one would not have been surprised to hear, but rather an account of long plodding work ultimately leading to success. Briefly the history is this. For ten years Mr. Oliver had been practising in the West-end as a hair-specialist, and during this time thousands of cases of affections of the hair passed through his consulting-rooms. Now, on collating the results of some 20,000 cases it was shown definitely that to induce a healthy state of the scalp it required in a lotion a combination of certain qualities, the three most important being the antiseptic, stimulant, and tonic properties. This again is easier to formulate than to put into practice, and it was only after a long series of experiments that a definite result was obtained. The amount of wasted material which had to be emptied down the drains was astonishing, and chemists were working for months settling various difficult points. Some of these are men well known in the drug-trade, the names being communicated to our representative. The gist of this conversation is given because our readers are in a position to appreciate the difference between a preparation built up as the result of practical experience and one arrived at in a haphazard fashion. Further proof of these statements was given in a visit to the record-room—a room shelved from top to bottom, and containing on the shelves thousands of files of letters of cases that have been treated for hair-disorders. "There is one point," said Mr. Oliver, "which I wish you would impress upon chemists. I wish they would display a little more enthusiasm in the sale of Warnol and its allied products. You see here numbers of letters in which the writers complain that they have not been able to get their supplies locally. My preparations bear a good profit and bring credit to any establishment, and the best class of customers are appealed to in my advertisements." This led on to a talk about further developments. There are, as most chemists know, three Warner-Oliver preparations: (1) Warnol, (2) hair-shampoo, and (3) hair-lubricant. It is proposed now to put up the hair-shampoo in packet form—at present it is supplied only in bottles. In bringing out the new package care has been taken to give terms to chemists which are even more favourable than the protected prices at present conceded. Our representative had these figured out on a sheet of foolscap from cost to the retail price, and there appears to be nothing lacking in the profit inducement. The designs for the wrappers of the shampoo-powders are prepared, and in a few weeks this new form will be an accomplished fact. A good many more interesting matters were the subject of further conversation. The outcome is that our representa-

tive intends on his next visit to the Houses of Parliament to pick out those of our legislators—hereditary and representative—who use Warnol. The simple test of identification is the healthy state of the hair. That many of them write to Mr. Oliver for supplies of Warnol is indisputable, and this raises the question for our readers, Why should not chemists tap this source of profit more freely than they do at present?

### AMERICAN PHARMACY.

We intimated at the beginning of the year that Mr. Charles Brooks, principal of the American Drug Stores Co., 24 Orange Street, Haymarket, London, W.C., was, with two other gentlemen, visiting the United States. Since his return a fortnight ago, Our Town Traveller has had the opportunity of having a chat with him in regard to his visit, which is the first that he has paid to the United States. As Mr. Brooks specialises in American pharmaceutical products of all kinds, this seemed to be a good opportunity of getting the opinion of an English pharmacist on American pharmacy. Mr. Brooks travelled from Southampton by the *Olympic*, and returned by the *Celtic*, which left New York on February 1. He had exactly eleven days to spend on American soil, and a good part of this time he spent in New York, where he secured agencies for the Tucker Pharmacal Co.'s Bromo Adonis, the Carbona Product Co., Mead & Johnson's Caroid, Pluto Water put on the market by the French Lick Springs Hotel Co., and the Pinoleum Co.; while he renewed his arrangements with the Bristol-Myers Co., Mr. Richard Hudnut, Messrs. Lehn & Fink, Messrs. McKesson & Robbins, the H. K. Mulford Co., and others. He also visited a number of the retail pharmacies, especially Messrs. Caswell, Massey & Co.'s, the Ramsdell Drug Co.'s, the Fraser Tablet Co.'s, and Lorrimore's. He took a trip to Des Moines and back, calling at Detroit and Chicago, visiting the more prominent pharmacies in these important cities, and renewing his sole agency for the Murine Eye Remedy Co., also securing the sole agency for the Waterbury Chemical Co.'s Metabolised Cod-liver Oil. It is obvious that had it been the vegetation season no grass would have grown under Mr. Brooks's footsteps.

Asked as to his opinion of the American retail drug-trade, Mr. Brooks remarked that one must keep in mind when considering business in the United States that it needs approximately a dollar to buy what a shilling gets here, and the consequence is that the retailers' returns are very much higher than on this side, and, apart from this factor, Americans buy more freely than do Britishers. He was somewhat disappointed with the pharmacies, which can be divided into three classes. "Those in the main streets are undoubtedly," he remarked, "quite up to the best that we have in London; then come a class which can not be called bad, but they are not brilliant; and in the back streets are third-rate pharmacies, with poor fittings and window-displays." Mr. Brooks was particularly struck with the poor quality of the fixtures and fittings in many side-street drug-stores, a circumstance which he attributed to the attention of the druggists being directed more to side lines than it is to pharmacy. He was also disappointed with the window-displays, which compare very badly with what we have in this country, where a very large proportion of chemists do make effective window-displays of various kinds of goods, whereas in the United States the practice of "pouring one article into the shop-window anyhow" is too common. Mr. Brooks went to America to pick up ideas in these directions, as well as to increase the business of the American Drug Stores Co., in which he had gratifying success; but the disappointment he expresses in regard to retail pharmacies is somewhat significant at the present juncture, when we have heard so much of American methods in pharmacy and there is a proposal that American precepts should be put in practice among us. Moreover, he failed to gather on the other side any evidence that British pharmacists need be afraid of the suggested invasion.

**RUSSIAN SPIRIT.**—The estimated receipts from the Russian Government spirit monopoly during the current year are 75,200,000l., more than a quarter of the total national revenue.

## TRADE NOTES.

**PERFUMERY.**—Some of the special manufactures of Barnett's Perfumery, Ltd., 126-128 Bristol Street, Birmingham, are given in the company's advertisement in this issue.

**SEDNA** is a "food beverage," medicated with coca, kola, and meat extract, made by Messrs. Deans, Logan & Co., Ltd., Belfast. Particulars are offered of a special offer to chemists—see the advertisement in this issue.

THE "MATINEE BOTTLE" is a special packing for perfume designed for use in the theatre, ball-room, and for outdoor and travelling purposes. Messrs. Rivers, Hill & Co., Ltd., Broadstone, Dorset, are the introducers.

**MILK-POWDER.**—The West Surrey Central Dairy Co., Ltd., Gloucester, offer to chemists their special brand of milk-powder under the trade-mark "Cow Gate." The company are willing to send samples to chemist applicants.

THE GEM SUPPLIES CO., LTD., 67 Southwark Street, London, S.E., advertise in this issue Turkish bath cabinets and the Gem water-still. The advantages offered by these goods are set forth in the advertisement.

THE STOLZ ELECTROPHONE, an instrument for alleviating deafness, is advertised in this issue. The proprietors, the Stolz Electrophone Co., Ltd., Byron House, 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C., invited chemists to apply for agency terms.

**VACUUM JARS** are among the special lines of manufacture which The British and Foreign Bottle Company, 107 Cannon Street, London, E.C., advertise in this issue. English machine-made glass-jars and bottles of all kinds are also mentioned.

**MACHINERY.**—Messrs. Flugel & Co., 21 Lime Street, London, E.C., have an announcement in this number regarding ice-making and aerated-water machines. The illustrations give a good idea of the class of machinery in which this firm specialise.

**ALBUMOZO TONIC FOOD** is a casein food containing glycerophosphates—a class of food which is much in demand at the present time. The profit on Albumozo is good; it is made by the British Casein Co. (1911), Ltd., 24 Great Dover Street, London, S.E.

**KALAMAZOO LOOSE-LEAF LEDGERS.**—To the advertisement of these goods in this issue by Messrs. Morland & Impey, Ltd., 62 Coleman Street, London, E.C., there is attached a coupon which, when filled in and sent to the company, will bring particulars of the Kalamazoo ledgers.

**SULTHINE CONCENTRATE** is being advertised to the public as an ingredient in a depilatory by the To-kalon Manufacturing Co., Ltd., To-kalon House, Great Portland Street, London, W. Particulars are given in our advertising pages, and it will be noted that an offer is made to take back stock unsold by August 31.

**BLACKING LEATHER.**—Messrs. Whitaker & Co., Kendal, and 8 Milk Street, London, E.C., have issued an attractive showcard for the "Juggler" black for leather, which is a useful preparation to recommend to customers who desire to convert their tan boots or shoes into black ones. There is considerable demand for such a liquid in many parts of the country.

**FOUR SPECIALITIES.**—Messrs. J. Touzeau Saunders, Ltd., 98 St. John Street, London, E.C., figure in their advertisement four of their leading lines. These are Saunders' shampoo cream, the Guards' hair-dye, Ninona oatmeal, and Ninona brilliantine. Advertising matter regarding these and other specialities of the company is obtainable on request.

**FURST BROTHERS**, 17 Philpot Lane, London, S.E., enumerate in their advertisement in this number the specialities for which they are prepared to make yearly contracts. These include chemicals, essences, and essential oils, fixed oils, drysalteries, photographic, and drugs. The firm are also agents for acid-proof stoneware and refractory ware of continental manufacture.

THE "TYCOS" SPHYGMOMANOMETER is an instrument for determining the arterial blood-pressure, the importance of which as a diagnostic aid is being increasingly recognised by medical men. The actual size of the instrument is shown in the advertisement in this issue of Messrs. Short

& Mason, Ltd., Walthamstow, London, N.E., where the advantages and method of using are also set forth.

**SHARMAN'S HYGIENIC SYPHON** is one in which the head is made of porcelain, so that neither metal nor rubber can come in contact with the aerated water with which the syphon is filled. The section illustrated in the advertisement of Sharman's Patent Syphon Co., Ltd., 171 Lower Clapton Road, London, N.E., shows how this is accomplished. Chemists who manufacture aerated waters should before the season begins make inquiries into the merits of this syphon.

THE MERCANTILE YEAR-BOOK and Directory of Exporters, which is published by Messrs. Lindley Jones & Brother, 16 St. Helen's Place, London, E.C., at 10s., is in a handy form and arranged in a manner which makes it easy for reference. This year is the twenty-sixth annual issue, and we are informed that more than 1,100 new names have been added to the list of oversea buyers, which gives the names of importers in 930 business centres throughout the world.

**DIGALEN.**—This special soluble digitoxin manufactured by the Hoffmann-la-Roche Chemical-works, Ltd., of Basle, Grenzach, and 7 and 8 Idol Lane, London, E.C., hitherto put up in solution only, is now supplied in tablet form. We have received particulars in regard to it from the London office of the company, which they will be glad to send to any dispensing chemist, along with a copy of the recent communication to the "British Medical Journal" by Professor Benjamin Moore, of the University of Liverpool, on the effects of digalen upon the heart. Each tablet of the new form corresponds to 8 minims of digalen. The tablets are sent out in tubes containing twelve, and cost 10d.

**MER-SYREN.**—The proprietors of this remedy—Mer-Syren (1911) Ltd., Long Lane, London, S.E.—are advertising to the public that for a time coupons are being issued entitling the holder to obtain the remedy from chemists at a reduced price. In our advertising columns the company are giving notice that they desire chemists to honour these coupons, and the difference in price will be refunded on application to the head office, enclosing with the letter the coupons that have been presented. The special terms are granted to those who write for samples, so that it may be taken for granted that the bearers of the coupons are genuine investigators into the merits of the preparation.

THE "UCAL" CIRCULAR for March states that the result of the 1911 trading will be convincing. The directors' report will be issued in the course of another week, and the annual general meeting will be held this month. During February forty new members joined, making sixty-one additional shareholders this year, the directors' aim being to get one new member for each day of 1912. The circular also announces, *inter alia*, the result of the advertisement competition, the following four competitors standing out conspicuously, with the result that the prize has been doubled, and is to be divided between them: Mr. A. W. Bromley, Whetstone; Mr. Lowes, West Cornforth; Mr. W. E. Gaze, Highams Park; and Mr. G. McDiarmid, Stromness. The circular is issued from the Ucal Works, Thirlwell Road, Heeley, Sheffield.

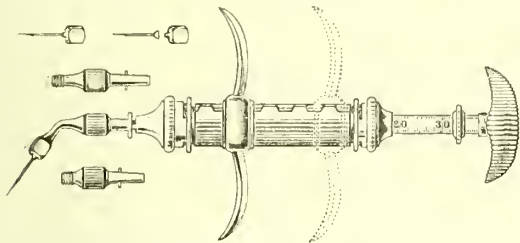
**ALLEN'S NEW EXPORT LIST.**—Messrs. Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd., 7 Cowper Street, Finsbury, London, E.C., and Long Milford, have now in the press a new export list, which is referred to in our advertisement pages. From a proof which has been submitted to us, we find that the list is much larger than previous issues, as it contains all their manufactures, the number of which has been considerably increased of late years. Briefly, the list comprises practically all the solid and liquid extracts asked for, all the English oils which the company distil, all the chief foreign oils, and many other preparations, such as confections, decoctions, juices, liquors, resins, plasters, syrups, ointments, scale preparations, English flowers, leaves, and roots, powdered drugs, etc. The list is printed in a bold clear type, and the various notes which accompany many of the products should assist buyers when in doubt.

**GAY'S NOVELTIES.**—Gay's Patent Ozolite Safety Night Light Co., 28 West Square, Southwark, London, S.E., have submitted to us samples of Ozolite nightlights. These are in the form of tin containers filled with an absorbent



material and asbestos. The tin is placed for five minutes in a saucer containing paraffin so that the oil is absorbed through a series of holes. After this it is taken out, placed in a dry saucer, and the asbestos portion ignited like a wick. It then burns for many hours without attention. Another article which was sent to us is a pretty model of the popular oil-heaters known as "Gay's Wonder," so arranged that an Ozolite can be employed in it as a night-light and food-warmer. It is 7 in. high, and is a perfect model, with a red window and handle complete. The Gay's Wonder sells at 1s. 6d., and at that price is sure to form an attractive and saleable line. The Ozolite nightlights are selling so freely that the company are temporarily embarrassed with the orders they have received. The works are being enlarged, and any delay that chemists may have experienced in obtaining supplies will speedily be overcome.

**DENTAL SYRINGE.**—The necessity for a trustworthy and simple hypodermic syringe for dental use is acknowledged by dentists and chemists who extract teeth. The illustration shows one of the dental syringes made by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill, London, E.C.



The pattern has been improved recently so that now it forms an ideal syringe for the purpose for which it is designed. It is a metal syringe, and can be readily sterilised, the case in which it is supplied being constructed as a sterilising tray.

**PETOL PREPARATIONS.**—An illustrated price-list of these products of Petol, Ltd., 17 Hart Street, Bloomsbury, London, W.C., is given in this issue. The products comprise a medical salve (cream-coloured and suitable for toilet use), veterinary salve (a darker and stronger preparation), toilet-soap, shaving-soap, medical antiseptic soap, and household disinfectant soap. We have read observations on petol by a well-known chemist, and from this we gather that the product is an oil distilled from peat, and consists of a complex mixture of hydrocarbons, 40 to 50 per cent. of which are solid and waxlike. It contains 3 to 4 per cent. of guaiacol and other constituents of creosote, besides the same quantity of "petolic acids," which are phenolic bodies, and are associated with both the liquid and solid constituents of the petol. A well-known bacteriologist has investigated the substance and its preparations in regard to their antiseptic and parasitic properties, and reports highly of them in these respects. The virtues of the preparations as described in those reports and in testimonials which the company have received are fairly epitomised in the company's advertisement, and need not be repeated here, but we may say that the preparations are admirably produced, and are put up very tastefully. They are in good demand abroad, and the company invite inquiries from shippers and others.

**BEECHAM'S PILLS.**—Mr. Justice Joyce had before him, in the Chancery Division of the High Court on Thursday, March 7, an action whereby Sir Joseph Beecham, St. Helens, sought to restrain alleged passing-off by Mr. John Painter, chemist and druggist, and his son, Mr. John Thomas Painter, of Cricklade, Gorse Hill, Swindon, of pills not of the plaintiff's manufacture, as Beecham's pills. The plaintiff's case was that one or other of the defendants, when asked for a pennyworth of Beecham's pills, had on several occasions supplied six that were not Beecham's at all. Defendants appeared in person and denied the allegation of passing-off. Mr. J. T. Painter, in the witness-box, declared that both he and his father had told customers they did not sell Beecham's pills, and suggested that the action had only been brought to induce them to stock plaintiff's pills. The hearing was adjourned until Monday next.

## WINTER SESSION.

### Association Presidents.

THE President of the Huddersfield and District Chemists' Association this session is Mr. John Beaumont Wood, a well-respected man of business in the town. In his early days Mr. Wood had exceptional experience as a dispenser for a firm of surgeons, beginning in 1880, and while with the surgeons he passed the Minor examination in October 1888, thus becoming the only qualified doctors' dispenser in Huddersfield. Two years later Mr. Wood commenced an interesting experiment. Starting business with a former employer as partner, he made an effort to separate dispensing from prescribing by getting doctors' patients to go to a chemist's shop to get their medicines dispensed; they were "too previous," the public not being educated up to this point, and Mr. Wood went back to dispensing for surgeons once more. He continued at this until seven years ago, when he purchased the old-established chemist's business at 15 Bridge Street, Lockwood, where he now is. The Chemists' Association in Huddersfield is the successor of an older one, of which Mr. Wood was a member, and he joined the present one when it was started in 1901. He acted as Secretary for four years and as Vice-President for two years before he was called to the presidential chair. He is also Vice-President of the West Riding Optical Society.



MR. J. B. WOOD.

### Brief Records.

**Ashton-under-Lyne Chemists' Association.**—Advantage was taken of a visit of Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, M.P., to the district on February 29 to call a conference of local pharmacists to discuss with him the position of pharmacists under the *National Insurance Act*. All the pharmacists in the district were present, and, after a long discussion, Mr. Glyn-Jones replied to questions. A vote of thanks was carried with acclamation.

**Mansfield Pharmacists' Association.**—A meeting was held on March 5 at the Swan Hotel, Mr. Highfield presiding. There were also present Messrs. Pegg, Adams, Croft, Buxton, Dickenson, Twidale, Jesson, Walker, Buttery, and the Secretary (Mr. A. H. Bell). The following were elected to act with the Divisional Secretary (Mr. Dickenson) as an Organising Committee: Messrs. Pegg, Adams, Croft, Bell, Highfield, and Jesson.

**Chemists' Assistants' Association.**—The meeting held at 73 Newman Street, W., on February 29, with the President (Mr. F. Naylor) in the chair, was well attended. The subject for the evening was a lecture by Mr. H. B. Everson on *Chemical Rarities and Curiosities*. This dealt chiefly with the rare earths and uranium-bearing minerals, thorium and its application in the manufacture of incandescent-gas mantles occupying the main part of the lecture. Mr. Everson exhibited a fine collection of specimens of the rare earths and the products made therefrom.

**Middlesbrough Chemists' Association.**—A meeting was held at the Grand Hotel on March 5, for the purpose of forming a Local Organisation Committee. Mr. Ellinton was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Brackenbury, Caris, Hornsby, Nichols, Owen, Thompson, and Wrothwell. The following were elected to the committee: Messrs. Brackenbury and Holt (Divisional Secretaries), with Messrs. Ellinton, Coltman, and Thompson. The committee represents the following area: Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Yarm, Stokesley, Redcar, and Saltburn.

**Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.**—A meeting was held on March 1 at Croydon Chambers, Regent Street. The President (Mr. E. H. Church) was in the chair. Mr. Percy Pain, in conjunction with Mr. Tams, of the Zoological Laboratories, repeated his evening with the microscope, which proved so successful a few weeks ago when given to the Junior Section. After a few explanatory remarks by Mr. Pain, the members were invited to inspect the various objects shown under the microscopes, Messrs. Pain and Tams explaining the specimens. There was also a selection of microphotographs. At the close, Mr. H. F. Cook, J.P., proposed, and Mr. A. A. Deck seconded, a vote of thanks to Messrs. Pain and Tams.



**York Chemists' Association.**—At the meeting held in the Old George Hotel on Thursday, February 29, there were present Messrs. F. C. Hey, F. A. Newey, J. A. Lupton, R. Grantham, W. C. Birks, W. Sowray, G. E. Walker, and T. C. Atkinson (Hon. Secretary). The following sub-committee was elected in connection with the Pharmaceutical Society's organisation scheme: Messrs. G. E. Walker, F. C. Hey, and F. A. Newey. Mr. W. J. Parker was elected a member of the Association. Mr. Newey proposed that the library be extended, and that a list of books selected by the sub-committee be presented at the annual meeting, and that members submit the names of any particular book they desire to be added. Mr. Atkinson was elected as a delegate to the dinner of the Harrogate Pharmacists' Association.

**Tunbridge Wells Association of Pharmacists.**—A meeting was held at the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, March 1, at 9 P.M., Mr. A. A. Godkin (President) in the chair. Messrs. Batting, Green, Bishop, Stedman, Vizer, Gale, Hobbs, Nicholson, Booth, Harden, Gower, Phillips, and Webb were also present. The Pharmaceutical Society's organisation scheme was considered, and in the course of the discussion Mr. Bishop remarked that it was practically the same idea which Mr. Hobbs had endeavoured to bring about when he was a member of the Pharmaceutical Council, and that much credit was due to Mr. Hobbs for the spade-work which he had done under great discouragement; it was also some satisfaction that time had proved Mr. Hobbs to be right. The President and Messrs. Godkin, Booth, Bishop, Hobbs, Phillips, and Webb were appointed a Local Organisation Committee. In anticipation of the *Shops Act*, it was decided that on and after May 1 local pharmacies should be closed for half a day on Wednesdays in each week.

**Glamorgan Valleys Chemists' Association.**—At the meeting held at the County Hotel, Pontypridd, on February 29, representatives being in attendance from Aberdare, Mountain Ash, Aberaman, Pontypridd, and Rhondda Valley. Mr. Daniel Arnott, J.P. (Pontypridd), presided. Reference was made to the suggested formation of a separate society for the Merthyr and Aberdare areas, but the general feeling at the meeting was against this. It was decided to form a Local Organisation Committee as follows: Divisional Secretaries—Rhondda Valley, Mr. John Davies; East Glamorgan, Mr. Williams (Abercynon); Merthyr Boroughs, Mr. J. Rees (Dowlais); and Messrs. D. E. Davies (Treorchy), Thomas (Aberaman), and Thomas (Treharris). Questions as to whether the committee would be empowered to deal with the local Health Committees were then discussed, and the Secretary was also asked to obtain particulars regarding obtaining representation on the latter bodies. Licensing matters relating to the sale of medicated wines were next discussed. It was decided to communicate with the Pharmaceutical Society and with Mr. Glyn-Jones, asking that steps be taken to secure special arrangements for the granting of retail licences for the sale of medicated wines. After the President had reported upon the proceedings of the Standing Committee on Insurance, the meeting closed.

**Exeter Association of Pharmacists.**—A meeting was held on March 1 at the residence of Mr. D. Reid (President), there being also present Messrs. P. F. Rowsell, T. C. Milton, H. Wippell Gadd, F. Sloman, E. Lemmon, J. Harris, A. H. Ware, and F. W. Vinden (Hon. Secretary). The meeting discussed the scheme of federation of the Pharmaceutical Society, and it was decided to appoint the following as the Local Organisation Committee: Messrs. P. F. Rowsell, T. C. Milton, H. Wippell Gadd, F. Sloman, J. Harris, with Mr. F. W. Vinden as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. D. Reid (Divisional Secretary) as an *ex-officio* member. Mr. Milton said he would like Mr. Rowsell to assure the members that Bloomsbury Square is wide awake as to what is going on in regard to the *National Insurance Act*. Mr. Rowsell said the Standing Committee on Insurance is representative of all classes entitled to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist in Great Britain, and chemists might rely on the committee doing its best in the interests of pharmacy. At the same time the committee would endeavour to render to the Commissioners every help possible. Funds would be necessary to carry on the work, and he trusted that the appeal about to be made would be responded to in a liberal manner throughout the country. The meeting next discussed the *Shops Act*. The President said they should try to get the relief which the law allowed, as that is very desirable from a health point of view. Mr. Milton suggested that on and after May 1 they should avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the Act and close their establishments at 1 o'clock on Wednesdays. Mr. Sloman said something ought to be done to stop the opening of shops on Sundays.

**Dewsbury Pharmacists' Association.**—The fourteenth annual meeting was held on February 29 at the

Church House. Councillor A. B. Barker (Heckmondwike), the President, occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. J. Rhodes (Mirfield), G. N. Gutteridge, R. Gledhill, and J. Butterfield (Dewsbury), J. Day (Savile Town), S. N. Pickard (Ossett), J. Mortimer, J. L. Heaton, and R. Broadhead (Batley), G. Walker (Birkenshaw), R. Sheard (Morley), W. Blakeley (Birstall), and R. J. H. Day (Thornhill Lees), Secretary. Arising out of the minutes of the last meeting was a reference to the *Petroleum Licence* fees charged by the Dewsbury Corporation. It was stated that such fees are not demanded at Batley, Heckmondwike, or Ossett. It was further stated that Mr. J. Day had seen the Town Clerk, and while there is no possibility of the fee being discontinued, it was pointed out that it is really a question of storage rather than licence-fee. The Secretary's *Annual Report* stated that the membership of the Association had been increased by three. Reference was made to the *National Insurance Act*, and the report concluded with the words: "Whatever the future may hold for us, we have not been slack in our efforts to avert the threatened danger, and we can await the future with the satisfaction that is given to those who have done their best." Mr. Blakeley (Treasurer) reported that the year was commenced with a balance in hand of 5/., and they had finished with a balance of about 13s., with other small items to come in. The reports were adopted. Councillor Barker was re-elected *President*; Messrs. Gledhill and Pickard, *Vice-Presidents*; Mr. Blakeley, *Treasurer*; and Mr. Reginald Day, *Hon. Secretary*. It was agreed to invite Mr. Thornton, of Leeds, to give the Association a lantern-lecture.

**Sunderland Pharmaceutical Association.**—A meeting of members and non-members was held at the Grand Hotel, Sunderland, on February 28. Mr. W. Nimmo (President) was in the chair, and also present were Messrs. R. Anderson (Vice-President), C. Hodgson (Treasurer), Alderman J. Harrison, J. Mitchinson, A. D. Purse, W. Hudson, R. H. Bell, C. Ranken, J. G. Harrison, R. C. Thursfield, E. H. Stephens, A. J. Kerrison, J. W. Todd, H. J. Turnbull, jun., E. A. Hay, G. C. Hodgson, T. C. Campbell, T. Dalton, Hardy, W. J. McGray, W. Forster, F. A. French, F. W. Armstrong, F. Jones, Flint, Abram, W. C. Longstaff, R. Sanderson, W. Potts, W. McLaren, and A. H. M. Purse (Secretary). The President introduced Alderman John Harrison, who gave an address on *Local Organisation and the Insurance Act*. Mr. C. Ranken opened a discussion. Speaking on the Insurance Act, he deplored the antagonism of the doctors to the Act and the effect this might have on chemists, and he thought the Pharmaceutical Society should use every endeavour to prevent the doctors' agitation upsetting those sub-sections of the medical-benefit section that deal with the dispensing and supply of medicines. Mr. A. D. Purse thought this was rather outside the scope of the discussion. Messrs. R. C. Thursfield, R. H. Bell, H. J. Turnbull, jun., and F. W. Armstrong (Seaham Harbour) also spoke, and Mr. R. H. Bell moved a resolution in support of the Council's scheme. Mr. Forster (Seaham Harbour) seconded the motion, and, speaking for his colleagues of Seaham Harbour present that afternoon, said they had decided to join the Sunderland Association. The motion was carried. Tea was provided, and votes of thanks accorded to Alderman Harrison and to the Chairman. Ten new members were elected.

**North Kent Pharmacists' Association.**—A meeting was held at the Town Hall, Gravesend, on Wednesday, February 28, Mr. R. Peaver Clarke, J.P. (President), in the chair. There were also present Miss A. Ethel Roberts, Messrs. E. F. Harrison, B.Sc., A. Stooke (Hon. Treasurer), F. J. Oliver and W. G. Wells (Maidstone), W. E. Clarke (Strood), H. A. J. Peasnell (Rochester), T. M. Chesterfield (New Brompton), R. T. Clarke, A. A. Gillitt, E. Millhouse (Gravesend), J. E. Lincoln (Northfleet), T. W. Ostle (Swanscombe), E. Ockwell (Crayford), and J. E. French (Sittingbourne), Hon. Secretary. Mr. E. F. Harrison gave an address on *Proprietary Medicines*, pointing out that the special interests of pharmacists had been affected in various ways during recent years by legislation. He recalled what had been done at the British Pharmaceutical Conference meeting in Portsmouth last year, and reviewed what has happened in the United States under the Food and Drug Act. He proceeded to deal on the lines of "Secret Remedies" with proprietary medicines in this country, especially the claims put forward in advertisements of them, and contrasted legitimate "proprietary" with quack nostrums, recommending pharmacists to be on their guard and in advance of legislation by publishing at least the principal ingredient on their labels, assuring them that in cases that had come under his own observation where this had been done neither imitation nor loss of sales had been caused. After a discussion, in which Messrs. W. G. Wells, R. T. Clarke, T. W. Ostle, A. Stooke, A. A. Gillitt, and F. J. Oliver took part, Mr. A. Stooke proposed, Mr. T. W. Ostle seconded, and it was agreed:



"That this meeting of the North Kent and District Pharmacists' Association is of opinion that the fraud and quackery connected with the sale and advertising of certain proprietary articles could be prevented by legislation requiring all proprietary medicines to have the name of the principal ingredients declared on the label, and making any misrepresentation in this respect a punishable offence, and, further, that such requirements would not injure the sale of honest and legitimate proprietary medicines."

Mr. Harrison replied to questions submitted, and, on the motion of the President, was cordially thanked.

**Leicester Chemists' Association.**—A meeting was held at the Foresters' Institute, Leicester, on March 5. Mr. Hampton (President) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Blockley, Clear, Hind, Hearnshaw, Fry, Lewis, Inglis, Johnson, Peberdy, Ward, Young, and Marfitt and Avery (Hon. Secretaries). Mr. Marfitt, reporting on the question of early closing and the *Shops Act*, which had been deferred from the previous meeting, said he had taken legal advice as to the method of procedure, and the solicitor considers that it would be best to proceed first by obtaining a closing order under the *Shops Act*, 1911, with regard to Thursday half-holidays, and afterwards, if thought desirable, to move in the direction of obtaining an order with regard to evening closing on days other than the weekly half-holiday. After a long discussion, Mr. Inglis moved that a petition, as prepared by the committee and signed by the trade, asking for a closing order for chemists in Leicester for a half-holiday from 1.30 P.M. on Thursdays, be presented to the Town Council, and that the Secretaries be authorised to take any further necessary steps in the matter. This was seconded by Mr. A. E. Young, and carried unanimously. The petition was signed by members controlling forty-nine shops in the town. The Leicester Poor-law Guardians having set up a sub-committee to deal with the *Supply of Medicines to the Poor*, Mr. Hampton reported that he had seen Dr. Crosby on the matter, and was informed that the sub-committee was meeting that night for the first time. It has been suggested at the Guardians' earlier meetings that the dispensing should be done either (1) through local chemists, (2) a central Poor-law dispensary, (3) a local provident dispensary, (4) or other means. The Association is doing its best to obtain this dispensing for the local pharmacists. It was resolved that the members take every possible means to forward this desirable end, and eventually, after some discussion, the matter was left with Mr. Hampton and Mr. Marfitt to report upon as early as possible. A discussion then took place, somewhat informally, on the *Apprentice Question* and the facilities for apprentices or boys wishing to become apprentices to obtain necessary instruction in subjects, especially Latin, necessary for the Preliminary examination. Leicester, it was stated, is none too well off in these facilities, except at one high-grade school, from which boys do not seem inclined to enter the drug-trade. Eventually Mr. A. E. Young gave notice that he would move at the next meeting a resolution dealing with "preliminary" education in the town and the apprentice question.

**Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.**—At the meeting held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on February 23, with Mr. Edward J. Brown, Ph.C. (President) in the chair, the first communication was on *Liquor Opii Sedativus, B.P. Codex*, by J. Manson, Ph.C. This preparation was found to be "hopelessly impossible" as it stands, the heavy precipitation which takes place during the first three months causing a great loss in morphine-content. This is due to decomposition of calcium morphinate by the carbon dioxide in the air. Mr. Donald McEwan also read a paper on *Dispensing Twenty-four Years Ago and Now—a Contrast*. The author found that, in spite of many disturbing factors introduced into the treatment of the sick, there is, after all, not such a very great contrast between the dispensing of twenty-four years ago and of to-day. Out of 1,000 prescriptions in 1888, 822 were for internal use and 178 for external use, and in the present year 747 were for internal use and 253 for external use. Those for internal use were divided as follows, the first figures in parentheses being for 1888 and the second for 1912: Mixtures (428 and 360), powders (181 and 140), pills (124 and 65), drops (65 and 33), lozenges (14 and 4), capsules (8 and 43), tablets (0 and 66), cachets (0 and 36). No great change is found in external treatment, the smaller proportion of plasters now prescribed being probably accounted for by verbal prescribing. Lists of articles now rarely prescribed and of new drugs were given. It was found that *nux vomica* is prescribed in one form or other in 120 cases, apart from such preparations as compound syrup of hypophosphites, etc. The prescribing of pepsin had trebled, while the use of other digestive ferments had also increased. Among the waters peppermint is most frequently indicated, cinnamon and chloroform waters coming next. *Nux vomica* is the most popular tincture, digitalis, com-

pound cardamoms, henbane, compound camphor, and strophanthus following in order named. Gentian is easily the most popular infusion, with calumba, quassia, and senega next. Of organo-therapeutical preparations, thyroid was stated to be the only one that had lasted, while the serums in demand were diphtheria and streptococcus. Quite a number of vaccines are in constant use. The use of proprietary articles, as may be expected from the increase in synthetic products, had greatly increased; the proportion had doubled, and now stands at nearly 20 per cent. In 1888 the six articles most frequently prescribed were sodii bicarb. (57 times), glycerin (52), bismuth. subnit. (43), potass. brom. (44), sp. chlorof. (41), and tr. nucis vom. (41). In 1912 they are sodii bicarb. (82), tr. nucis vom. (76), glycerin (64), tr. digitalis (38), sp. ammon. arom. (36), and inf. gent. co. (36).

**Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association.**—An open meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on February 29, at 9.15 P.M., Mr. Thomas Stephenson, F.R.S.E., presiding over a large attendance which included persons, firms, and bodies corporate carrying on business as chemists and druggists in Edinburgh, Leith, and district. Messrs. A. Hunter, J. Kirk, J. H. Tainsh, G. Innes, and J. A. Gordon were elected members. With regard to the *National Insurance Act*, the Chairman briefly explained what had taken place at the meeting of the Provisional Committee on Insurance in London on February 21. The Scottish deputies were glad to find their proposals favourably received, and the work done by the Scottish local Pharmaceutical Associations had, in his opinion, been fruitful in bringing about an arrangement which would be found to work in a satisfactory way. Meantime a sub-committee had been appointed to go into details and to report to another meeting of the Provisional Committee, which is expected to be held about the end of March. The Chairman then explained that the meeting had been specially convened for the purpose of considering what action should be taken in connection with the *Shops Act*. On the motion of Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Wright, it was agreed that the discussion be taken in committee. In the course of this private meeting it was stated by several carrying on business in the Princes Street and central area of the city that Wednesday would not be a practicable day, and that Saturday was likely to be the general closing day in that area. It was pointed out that by Section 2, Sub-section 2 c (1) of the Act a closing order fixing a day other than Saturday must contain a provision permitting any occupant of a shop to substitute Saturday for that other day, should he so desire. After a full discussion, and various questions having been answered, it was moved by Mr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Macpherson, and unanimously agreed:

"That this meeting of Edinburgh, Leith and District Pharmacists is of opinion (1) that it is desirable to institute a weekly half-holiday; (2) that in order to secure this, advantage should be taken of the provisions of the *Shops Act*, 1911; (3) that arrangements be made for obtaining signatures in favour of retail pharmacies being brought within the Act, and the necessary order being issued by the local authority; (4) that Wednesday afternoon would be the most suitable for the half-holiday."

It was also moved by Mr. Forret, seconded by Mr. Beattie, and unanimously agreed:

"That a committee be now appointed in order to canvass the pharmacists in the district, and obtain their signatures, with a view to securing the required two-thirds majority, and that this committee have power to take all necessary steps to attain the object in view."

Messrs. W. S. Glass, R. L. Hendry, C. F. Henry, James Nesbit, J. Gordon Nicholson, W. Smith, G. Somerville, and G. Victor Wright were appointed a committee for that purpose. The Chairman was cordially thanked for presiding.

**Institute of Ophthalmic Opticians.**—A meeting of the Council was held at the Holborn Restaurant, London, on February 29. Mr. E. K. Spiegelhalter (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. F. W. Bateman (Vice-Chairman), G. C. Bateman, E. Beaumont, G. Bennett, H. M. Black, A. W. Boatman, D. Buchanan, H. Coleman (Treasurer), P. J. Fielding, G. E. Houghton, A. Jones, E. H. Tugwell, A. Upson, and J. Harcombe Cuff (Hon. Secretary). A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. James Aitchison—Mr. F. W. Bateman, Mr. A. W. Boatman, and the Chairman paying a tribute to Mr. Aitchison's good qualities. Nineteen persons were elected Fellows in addition to fifty-two reported as elected by the General Purposes Committee. The Finance Committee reported upon the financial position since the February meeting, and recommended that Mr. Cuff, as Editor of the Institute's "Journal," be paid 50l. for the period from March 1 to September 30, when the question of remuneration will be reconsidered. Mr. Beaumont asked that it should be made clear that the rate of payment suggested is 50l. per annum, and with an alteration to give effect to this the report was adopted. The Hon. Secretary reported that the following members of the Council retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election: Messrs.



F. W. Bateman, Bennett, Boatman, Buchanan, Jones, Kidd, and Matthews. Mr. Cuff having been appointed Editor of the Institute's "Journal" at a salary, tendered his resignation as a member of the Council. The Council, in accepting it, gave expression to the very high opinion which the members hold of Mr. Cuff. This concluded the public business.—In the evening Mr. J. H. Sutcliffe addressed the members of the Institute on *The Morals of Opticus*. This consisted of philosophical moralisings on the ideals and plagues of the optical-trade. Dealing first with the dispensing optician, he objected to these occasionally testing sight; they should keep to the understanding which they have with ophthalmic surgeons, and refer all cases to them. They should be able to repair frames, edge and drill lenses, and complete cylindrical prescriptions on the premises. Mr. Sutcliffe suggested that the dispensing optician who is also a chemist should refer all sight-testing to the ophthalmic surgeon, just as he refers prescribing to the medical man. Reference was then made to those men who take up optics more as a hobby, the lecturer's objection to them being that they are not qualified to speak on questions that affect the whole optical-trade. Mr. Sutcliffe later on objected to applying the term profession to the optician's business; a man who confined himself to sight-testing should rather be called a consulting optician. The next types touched upon were the optician who advertises in a large way, the pedlar, and the exhibition optician. In regard to the last-named type, the lecturer suggested that the attention of exhibition promoters should be called to these men, so as to prevent the harm which is done to visitors to an exhibition. The relations between the optician and the ophthalmic surgeon were also dealt with. A discussion followed, which was taken part in by Messrs. Dadd, Boatman, Houghton, Bennett, Spiegelhalter (Chairman), and Dr. Ettles.

**Dublin Retail Drug Association.**—A meeting was held on February 28 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, Mr. S. P. Boyd, M.A., D.L., presiding. The proceedings commenced with a brief lecture on the *National Insurance Act* by Mr. P. Doherty, who urged that it was in the best interests of insured persons to join an approved society. Dr. J. C. McWalter, M.A., followed with an explanation of the *Shops Act* from the chemist's point of view. The Act, which comes into force on May 1, provides that shops must be closed for one half-day during the week, but chemists are exempted and permitted to sell special articles. Nevertheless the assistant must have a weekly half-holiday after 1.30 P.M. The chief difficulty is that the assistant will obtain a full hour for dinner between 11.30 and 2.30 P.M. He will find it difficult to get his dinner before 12 noon, either at home or in lodgings, so that it will be time almost for the second assistant to leave before the first returns. Similarly the tea interval is annoying, though most insignificant. The assistant is also entitled to one week's holiday for six months' work, and to a fortnight after a year's service. With reference to the dinner-hour problem, the solution, said Dr. McWalter, is a closing order, for which it will be necessary to collect the signatures of at least two-thirds of those in business in the drug-trade. A petition to the Corporation would follow, and after due investigation of the signatures a specific dinner-hour for both employer and employé would be arranged. The shop could then be closed, and the sale of articles urgently needed would be left to the owner's discretion during the dormant hour. Another way out of the difficulty would be to call in the services of an assistant to look after the counter during the dinner-hour of the usual attendant. This new assistant would not be liable to the rules, as he might be making up stock over the shop or doing the ledgers all the day, with the exception of this hour. This would rather be a case of evading the Act, which only refers to a person wholly or mainly employed at the shop counter. Local authority might decide the opening hour for chemists, and the question of a closing order at night would also occur, since certain trades are exempt. The question of a telephone call during the time in which sales are forbidden will require the exercise of the discretion of the proprietor as to whether he will supply the required articles. If asked for soda-water, he would have to reflect whether it is wanted as a medicinal requirement or merely as a luxury. In the case of a bottle of brillantime, he could supply it also if he could guarantee it would remove a headache. In fact, the question strongly reminds one of the time when a former Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST informed a Select Committee that a tooth-brush, in his opinion, is a surgical appliance. The expense of maintaining and working the Act will be purely local; in other words, it will come out of their own pockets. If a doubtful article is ordered, it would then be quite fair to raise the price a little, in order to provide against a possible prosecution. As regarded a shop-closing order, it would turn out beneficial to employer and employé alike, and in a short time the public would get to know about it and make their arrangements accordingly. Referring then to the *National Insur-*

*ance Act* in Ireland (the terms differing from Great Britain), Dr. McWalter said the porter would naturally resent 2d. being docked from his wages every week, and it might be more convenient if the employer paid both his own and the employé's contribution; this would average about 4½d. an assistant each week, and for large employers of labour it would be a heavy tax. It may cause a general raising of prices. There does not seem much benefit in the Act for the employer, except when the assistant has been away for twenty weeks, when the master would begin to receive some return on his expenditure. The sanatorium clause reminded Dr. McWalter that the drug-trade is the least afflicted with tuberculosis. The chief question for the drug-trade is whether it would be a good thing for pharmacy if the medical benefit was extended to Ireland. If the medical and pharmaceutical bodies desired this, they could apply in the usual way, and probably it would be granted. Reckoning that about 40 per cent. of the population in Ireland would come under medical benefit, and also the number of pharmacies, it would mean, said Dr. McWalter, to each shop 90% to 100% extra, so that they must consider seriously how to make the best of it. The Act would chiefly teach people to malingering and become sick, but even that is of some importance to the chemist. In the country the farmer hardly buys a halfpennyworth of salts in the year, while in the cities the business man reads advertisements on all sides, with the result that he uses drugs freely and so gives business to traders. With reference to the working of the Act, there is, he said, no suitable machinery for detecting malingers, so that, with dinner-hours and half-holidays, the retailer's lot will be anything but a happy one. In Great Britain the doctors are not satisfied, and the chemists are hesitating. The latter would rather have 1s. 6d. than nothing per head, but if the doctor can get 8s. the chemist might reasonably be given one-quarter that amount. Dr. McWalter then answered questions, and was accorded a vote of thanks for his paper. Dr. Barnes read a letter from the Ulster Drug-trade Association, asking which day of the week would be the most suitable for early closing, Wednesday being considered the most favourable in Belfast. The Chairman said it would not be possible to send a definite answer as yet.

### Festivities.

**The British Drug Houses Cricket Club.**—The fourth annual dinner was held at the Talbot Restaurant, London, E.C., on March 2, Mr. R. M. Harvey presiding, in the absence of Mr. C. A. Hill, who could not be present until later in the evening. Messrs. W. L. Howie and Alan Francis were Vice-Chairmen. To the toast of "The Club," given by the Chairman, Mr. H. S. Collins replied. Mr. G. J. R. Parkes proposed "The Company," and the managing director (Mr. Hill), in reply, dealt with the possible effects of a continued coal strike, also with the probable effect of the Insurance Act on wages generally. He expressed pleasure at the good feeling which had always characterised the relationship between employers and employes in the company. Mr. C. Parker received the prize for the highest batting average, and Mr. G. Taylor for best bowling. Second prizes were presented to Mr. H. Farr for batting, and Mr. J. Cullen for bowling. Mr. E. R. Munyard had arranged a programme of songs and recitations to which Messrs. W. L. Howie, G. J. R. Parkes, and Mr. Harry Rendell contributed.

**Boots' London and District Managers** to the number of 120 dined at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, E.C., on February 28. Sir Jesse Boot presided, and was supported by Mr. John Boot, Mr. A. Thompson (general manager), Mr. A. L. Milne (secretary), Mr. E. S. Waring, Mr. W. T. Aspdon, and Mr. P. Sparks. The Chairman, on responding to the toast of "The Firm," proposed by Mr. Osborne (Chelsea), received quite an ovation. He spoke of the pleasure it gave him to meet so many of his managers, and sketched out some of his plans for the future of the business and the welfare of the staff. Mr. John Boot also spoke. Mr. Compton (Croydon) proposed the toast of "The Guests," which Mr. Milne replied to in a witty speech on behalf of Nottingham, and Mr. P. Sparks spoke for London. Mr. W. T. Aspdon proposed the toast of "The Branch Managers," and Mr. R. L. Davies (Islington) replied. Mr. E. S. Waring, who also contributed to the musical part of the programme, proposed the toast of "The Committee" [Messrs. Bridger (Kilburn), Compton (Croydon), Church (Ilford), Hornby (Farringdon Road), Morrison (Edgware Road), Osborne (Chelsea), and Hamilton (Chesham, E.C.)]. The evening closed with much enthusiasm by Mr. Morrison (Edgware Road) calling for a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Jesse Boot for presiding, which was accorded with acclamation.

**The Annual Supper** of the Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association was held in



Ferguson & Forrester's, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on Friday, March 1, Mr. Edward J. Brown, Ph.C., presiding over a company of over sixty. Mr. David Murray proposed the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," which Mr. W. L. Currie (Vice-President) acknowledged. The toast of "The British Pharmaceutical Conference" was given by Dr. George Coull, and Mr. Thomas Stephenson, replying on behalf of the local committee, said they had been able to arrange for a civic reception by the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in July. Mr. J. A. Forrester proposed "The Medical Profession," which was acknowledged by Dr. John Cumming. Mr. J. P. Gilmour, in proposing "The Association," said he was delighted to find that after so many years of successful work the Association was still in full vigour and maintaining the high standard which had always characterised the Association in its educational, scientific, and social work. The toast was acknowledged by the President, Mr. William Duncan gave "Kindred Associations," Mr. E. O. Rowland replying for all. Songs were contributed by Messrs. P. Currie Greig, Harrison Cook, W. W. Simpson, A. W. Traill, James Muir, and J. Tait; and recitations by Messrs. J. Vincent Cowan and J. P. Gilmour. Mr. Tom C. Miller was accompanist.

**The "P.D." Cricket and Swimming Clubs** held their first annual supper and smoking-concert on Saturday, March 2, at Maxim's Restaurant, Wardour Street, London. The company numbered about 100, and the duties of the chair were conducted with great geniality by Mr. F. M. Fisk, European manager of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. After supper, a long programme of toasts, music (vocal and instrumental), and recitations was negotiated. The health of "Our Patrons and President" was proposed by Mr. W. D. Astill, and replied to by the Chairman, who thereafter gave "The Clubs," coupled with the names of the Secretaries (Messrs. Kenyon and Phippard), who replied. "The Vice-Presidents and Honorary Members" were toasted, on the call of Mr. J. W. Griffith, Messrs. Hickey and Clark acknowledging the compliment. Mr. T. Maben proposed "The Captains and Officers," and Messrs. Butler and Davy responded. To the toast of "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Astill, Mr. Griffiths (of the British Medical Association) and Mr. White (of Messrs. Claudius Ash & Co., Ltd.) replied, both gentlemen wishing the young clubs every success. On the call of Mr. C. E. MacMillan, "The Artists" were duly honoured, and the health of the Chairman was proposed by Mr. E. G. Lewis, and drunk with musical honours. The rest of the programme contained at least a score of items, the accompaniments being played by Messrs. G. R. H. Clark, Mus.Bac., and J. W. Griffith.

**Whist-drives.**—There was a gathering of about 200 persons at the whist-drive held by the Liverpool Chemists' Association at the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on February 29. Mr. Anthony S. Buck acted as M.C., assisted by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. Humphreys Jones). The prizes, which were greatly admired, were won as follows: *Ladies*—(1) Mrs. R. Wilson, (2) Mrs. Charles Jackson, (3) Mrs. Archdale. *Gentlemen*—(1) Mr. Vos, (2) Mr. Robertson, (3) Mr. Archdale. *Lady playing as Gentleman*—Mrs. Cameron. *Surprise Prizes*—First half, Mr. Lutas and Mrs. Carroll, losing pair at table 13; second half, Mr. R. Jones and Miss Egan, winning pair at table 38.—Over sixty guests assembled at the Inns of Court Hotel on February 29, when a musical and social evening was held under the auspices of the London Chemists' Association. Mr. F. W. Truman presided, and among those present were Messrs. Glew, Inch, C. W. Martin, Harrison, Present, T. R. Williams, Royle, Bromley, Bantick, Young, Morrell, and Bowden, and a number of ladies. The musical portion comprised songs by Mrs. Wellesley Douglas and Mr. Charles Carr, violin solo by Mr. Wellesley Douglas, and pianoforte solos by Miss Edie Marr. Miss E. L. Newman and Miss Kate Gentry acted as accompanists. After an interval for refreshments, a whist-drive took place, under the able direction of Mr. Arthur Bantick. The following were the prize-winners: *Gentlemen*—(1) Mrs. Gilbey (playing as a gentleman), (2) Mr. T. R. Williams, (3) Mr. Young, (4) Mr. Glew, jun. *Ladies*—(1) Mrs. Harrison, (2) Mrs. Keating, (3) Mrs. Edkins, (4) Miss Young. Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Bantick and Mr. Wellesley Douglas (Hon. Secretary) for their arrangements.

**The Thirty-first Junior Pharmacy Ball**, held at the Portman Rooms, London, W., on March 6, fully sustained its reputation for jollity, the large concourse of 350 making one big merry party. The *habitués* present at similar drug-trade functions were unanimous in agreeing that the "Junior Pharmacy" even eclipsed its previous successes. Among the jovial company we noted Mr. and Mrs. Alec Boves, Mr. and Mrs. C. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. W. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. R. Cassie, Mr. and Mrs. W. Chalmers, Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Cooper and Miss Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Francis, Mr.

and Mrs. V. C. Hewlett, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hickey, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. W. Idris, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Present, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Procter and Miss Procter, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Whatmough, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Wilkinson, and Messrs. H. C. Wright, A. R. Arrowsmith (Apollinaris), R. H. Brittain (Priehard & Constance), P. Cheetham (P. D. & Co.), Carr (Sangers'), Cooke-Jones (Maw's), H. R. Culling (Toogood), W. S. Gill and Higgins (W. J. Bush & Co.), Gooseman (Vinolia), J. H. Hugill (Meggeson's), T. Kempston, M. Menzies (Pinaud), A. Philpott (Harker, Stag), A. J. Rickford and Lewis (Allenburys), J. W. Royle and H. Royle (Ingram & Royle), Tanner (Crown Perfumery Co.). The chair was taken at supper-time by Mr. W. Browne, who briefly gave the toast of "Success to the Junior Ball and the Health of the Ladies." The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. E. Southon), in replying, stated that there were present two of those who originated the dance thirty-one years ago—Messrs. Ralph Cassie and C. W. Martin. It is interesting to note that these two gentlemen played a great part in securing the harmonious nature of the ball, as they were the active and efficient M.C.s. The dance has been held in the Portman Rooms since 1889, but if it continues to increase in popularity the question of accommodation will have to be taken into consideration.

**Eastbourne Pharmacists' Association.**—Mr. J. Forbes (President) occupied the chair at the annual dinner held at the Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne, on February 28. The principal guests were Councillor R. T. Thornton (Mayor of the Borough) and Mr. E. T. Neathercoat, representing the Pharmaceutical Society. Among others present were Messrs. H. C. Browne (Vice-President), F. Temple (Treasurer), D. Marchant (Hon. Secretary), G. A. Harmer, J. Senior, C. H. Temple, Fred. Temple, A. Mills, A. Moss, R. B. Fletcher, W. J. Mosley, A. Procter, J. Routly, P. Neal, Branson, G. W. Cancellor, J. W. Woolnough, G. Hudson, G. Gasson, Morgan, Crisford, C. F. Bauermeister, and Banister. During the dinner a programme of instrumental music was performed by the Nell Gwyn trio. After the loyal toasts, the President submitted that of "The Pharmaceutical Society," and spoke chiefly of the Insurance Act, saying that the question whether it was going to prove beneficial to them seemed to depend upon the political glasses through which the individual surveyed the outlook. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He feared it was too often the fact that the glasses determined their opinions upon particular questions. This reminded him of the tourist who, having attained the summit of Mount Snowdon, said to his guide, "I dare say if we had a really good glass we could see Liverpool from here." The guide replied, "I rather doubt it. I have been up here alone with half a bottle and could not see it." (Laughter.) The toast was acknowledged by Mr. Neathercoat in one of his characteristic speeches. "The Town" was then given by Mr. Senior, and the Mayor, in reply, kept the diners laughing heartily. In the course of his speech he said:

In an assembly like this one wonders how you are going to convey your thanks in ordinary language. A friend to whom I happened to mention I was attending a chemists' dinner instantly foreshadowed possible difficulties. "Why," he said, "they speak a language of their own—(laughter)—mystic signs and symbols, by comparison with which a reporter's shorthand is the simplest thing in the world." "First," he said, "there will be a password." I said, "What do you mean?" He said, "It will be something like this: They will say 'H<sub>2</sub>O'." I said, "What is that?" He replied, "Oh, you will learn further on; but you take my advice, when they say 'H<sub>2</sub>O' you will respond with 'C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH,' which makes a very good combination." (Loud laughter.) He added the explanation that, chemically interpreted, that meant whisky and water. (Renewed laughter.) Which reminds me of the story of a great temperance man who was addressing a Band of Hope. They had not sung quite so well as he had expected, so he gave out a hymn and said, "Now, children, you will sing the hymn 'Little drops of water,' and for goodness' sake put some spirit in it." (Laughter.) That is exactly what I feel when you give me the greeting 'H<sub>2</sub>O,' and it is under that impulse I reply 'C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH.' (Laughter.)

His Worship also spoke about doctors' prescriptions, resurrecting the castor-oil story in which a young lady goes to a chemist's shop for a dose, really for a brother, but gets it herself in a pleasant effervescent draught that the assistant serves up to her. Mr. Woolnough gave the toast of "The Eastbourne Association," and it was acknowledged by Mr. Temple. Other toasts were "Our Guests," given by Mr. Mills, and acknowledged by Mr. Cancellor; and "The Press," by Mr. Routly, and replied to by Mr. Gasson. The speeches were interspersed with musical and dramatic items; indeed, the programme was exceptionally good and gave great satisfaction.

THE "B.C. PHARMACEUTICAL RECORD," in reviewing the *Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1912, says: "All this is a free gift to each annual subscriber to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, so no wonder that wonderfully interesting weekly journal leads all others."



## BUSINESS CHANGES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. G. W. ELEY, chemist and druggist, has removed from 63 Market Street to 6 Market Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

MESSRS. EDWARD BARBER & SON, 9 Mincing Lane, E.C., inform us that they have removed to 1-4 Great Tower Street, London, E.C.

MESSRS. HELBING & PASSMORE, analytical and consulting chemists, have removed from 63 to 8 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

MR. C. E. DAVIES, chemist and druggist, High Street, Rayleigh, Essex, has disposed of his business to Mr. R. Knowles. (Corrected note.)

MR. F. BARTON DELL, chemist and druggist, has removed from 148 to 168 King Street, Hammersmith, London, W. The old premises were wanted for street-widening purposes.

A RETAIL SHOP in Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester, which is now being altered to meet the requirements of the business, is shortly to be opened by Boots Cash Chemists (Lancashire), Ltd.

MR. REGINALD J. OWEN, chemist and druggist (from St. Bartholomew's Hospital), has taken over the business lately carried on by Mr. W. H. Cook, chemist and druggist, at the London Street Pharmacy, Faringdon, Berks.

MESSRS. H. HODDER & CO., LTD., Bristol, have taken over Mr. Bennett's business, the County Drug Co., High Street, Weston-super-Mare. It is stated that the company intend opening business shortly in the Redfield and Horfield districts of Bristol.

## PERSONALITIES.

Notes for this section sent to the Editor should be authenticated, and must not be in the nature of advertisements.

MR. FREDERICK BARLOW, chemist and druggist, 178 Balsall Heath Road, Birmingham, has been nominated for election on the local Board of Guardians.

MR. JOHN HINTON LAKE, Ph.C., Exeter, has been returned unopposed for the St. Petrock's Ward to fill a casual vacancy on the Exeter Board of Guardians.

MR. JAMES NICKSON and Mr. Wildish M. Woodhouse, chemists and druggists, Ludlow, have been re-elected auditors for the Borough.

MR. T. B. CORNFOT, chemist and druggist, 25A Mortimer Street, Herne Bay, has been reappointed honorary optician to the Herne Bay Queen Victoria Memorial Cottage Hospital.

ALDERMAN R. FITZ-HUGH, Ph.C., and Councillor Sam-borne Cook, chemist and druggist, have been appointed overseers of the poor for the ensuing year by the Nottingham City Council.

MR. WOOLMER WHITE, chemist and druggist, Portsmouth, is a candidate for election to the Hampshire County Council, a casual vacancy having occurred through the death of the late Lord Robert Brudenell-Bruce.

MR. J. C. KENT, chemist and druggist, late manager for Boots, Ltd., at their branch in Powis Street, Woolwich, London, S.E., has been presented with a silver cigarette-case by the staff there, on his transference to Worthing.

MR. THOMAS DIXON, founder of the Dixon Institute of Scientific Salesmanship and Advertising, has been presented by his old pupils with a handsome gold medallion and a scroll of over 500 signatures enclosed in the casket, in appreciation of his personal worth and professional distinction.

THE KING, on March 6, performed the ceremony of Knighthood upon the following recipients of New Year honours: Sir William Barrett, Sir Joseph Beecham, Sir Hawtrey Benson, Sir John Collie, Sir James Davidson, Sir Henry Miers, Sir Herbert Parsons, Sir George Savage, Sir Robert Walton, and Sir Bertram Windle.

MR. G. CLARIDGE DRUCE, M.A., Ph.C., Oxford, is still confined to bed after the attack of phlebitis which he has had, and which at one time assumed a grave character. Nevertheless Mr. Druce is quite cheerful, and has given the finishing touches to a paper on "George Don" which he will communicate to the British Association at its meeting in Dundee this year. A second edition of his "Oxford Flora" is to be published by the Clarendon Press, and the "Morrison Herbarium" by Dr. Vines and him is now well through the press.

THE KING held a Council at Buckingham Palace on February 29. The Viscount Morley (Lord President), the Marquess of Crewe, the Earl Carrington, the Lord Pentland, the Right Hon. J. A. Pease, M.P., and the Right Hon. T. McKinnon Wood were present, and Sir Almeric FitzRoy was in attendance as Clerk of the Council. The King pricked the List of Sheriffs for England and Wales, among those into whose names the silver bodkin entered being Mr. Thomas Howell Williams Idris, of Dolycæ, Talyllyn. Corris (chairman of Idris & Co., Ltd.), who was appointed Sheriff for the County of Merionethshire.

## Moissan Memorial Lecture.

THE lecture-theatre of the Chemical Society at Burlington House, London, W., was well filled on February 29 some time before the hour for the delivery by Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., of the Moissan memorial lecture. Late-comers lined the gangways, even taking possession of the steps of the rostrum, while the entrances were packed with Fellows unable to get into the room. The first two benches, which were reserved for the Council, were also well filled. At 8.30 p.m. the Chairman (Professor P. F. Frankland, President), in calling upon Sir William to deliver his lecture, remarked that Henri Moissan was surely the most brilliant experimentalist of his generation, and referred to Sir William as "that prince of experimenters." He said that it was perhaps appropriate that the discoverer of the most active gas should form the subject of a lecture by one who discovered the most inert gas.

The lecturer said that France held a high place among nations for the originality and brilliance of her sons. Ferdinand Frédéric Henri Moissan was born in Paris on September 28, 1852, his father being a native of Toulouse. He was educated at Meaux, his special studies being in the laboratories of Dehérain, of the Grignon School of Agriculture, and of Frémy. He graduated Bachelier des Sciences in 1874, taking his licentiate in Physical Sciences in 1877. In 1879 Moissan became a Pharmacien de la 1<sup>re</sup> classe, qualifying at the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy. Photographs of Moissan were projected upon the screen at intervals, one at this stage showing him as a stripling in uniform during the Siege of Paris. About that time he abandoned vegetable chemistry for inorganic chemistry, to which he remained faithful to the end. In 1879 Moissan was appointed "Répétiteur de Physique" at the Sorbonne, and next year lecture assistant and senior demonstrator at the Paris School of Pharmacy. He graduated D.Sc. in 1880, and qualified as assistant-professor of physical sciences in 1882. In 1886 he was elected to the Professorship of Toxicology at the School of Pharmacy, and in 1899 he became in turn Professor of Mineral Chemistry, then for the first time delivered a course of lectures on the subject in which his life's work lay.

Moissan's first research was in connection with the interaction of carbon dioxide and oxygen in the leaves of plants. His first inorganic work was on oxides of iron and more especially chromium compounds. In 1884 he turned his attention to compounds containing fluorine, and in 1888 he investigated organic fluorides. While attempting to electrolyse arsenium fluoride, Moissan added anhydrous hydrofluoric acid to increase the conductivity of this substance. He found that a mixture of potassium and hydrogen fluorides gave a better result, and it was but a step to omit the arsenious compound. During this research (1889) he made the interesting compound KF<sub>3</sub>HF, which melts at -23° C. and conducts elec-



tricity readily. This long series of investigations terminated in the discovery of fluorine. After describing the apparatus used in producing this gas, and mentioning Moissan's stock experiment to show its remarkable properties, Sir William remarked upon the great care with which the experiments were conducted, and stated that Moissan never let a doubtful point pass without investigation.

The fall of a meteorite containing minute diamonds led Moissan to surmise that their formation is due to excess of carbon crystallising out from iron under great pressure. In following up this line of thought, Moissan developed his electric furnace. Moissan's three great lines of research thus all hang together, and he brought all to success. With his furnace Moissan produced many compounds previously unknown, and added a large chapter to the book of chemistry. Sir William described the production of artificial diamonds. He also mentioned in detail the metals, metallic carbides, and hydrides made in the electric furnace. Calcium carbide was one of these, but Moissan did not develop its use in lighting. Carborundum was another substance born therefrom, but to Acheson he gave the merit of extending its use to the industrial world. His researches on the products of the interaction of metallic carbides and water led him to propound a theory in regard to the production of petroleum by water attacking molten carbides in the earth's crust. His last research (1906) concerned the distillation of titanium with the electric furnace.

Moissan produced over 500 memoirs and notes, all full of new ideas, mostly offshoots of his original researches. His work lay in the field of inorganic chemistry and turned the tide which set so long in favour of organic research. A list of the many honours accorded Moissan was also given, and Sir William concluded by referring to the perfect exposition and fine command of language which Moissan possessed.

A vote of thanks to the lecturer was moved by Sir William Tilden, seconded by Professor H. E. Armstrong, and supported by the President.

Professor Armstrong said he was surprised that Sir William had not referred to the advantage which Moissan had of starting as a pharmacist, thus having a great opportunity of getting a practical education in learning how to use his fingers. Moissan gave the first impulse to the use of electricity in the chemical industry.

## TRADE-MARKS.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications must be stated on Form T.M. No. 7 (obtainable at Money Order Offices for £1) and lodged with Mr. Temple Franks, Comptroller-General, Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned.

The figures in parentheses refer to the classes in which the marks are desired.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," February 21, 1912.)

"VESIK"; for a vermin-destroyer (2). By Gledhill Bros., 120 Old Kent Road, London. 339,359.

"LONGITE"; for an ointment (3). By J. Long, 294 Priced Street, Birkenhead. 335,338.

"CYSTOCAIN"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By Farbwerke vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brüning, Höchst a/Main, Germany. 337,238.

Label devices, including monkey's head and words "TITANIUM KONAPRO"; for a medicine (3). By The Scientific Productions Co., 68 Shoe Lane, London, E.C. 337,756/7.

"PEDONIA"; for an antiseptic powder (3). By Pedonia, Ltd., 41 Milsom Street, Bath. 337,932.

Faessile signature "PROF. LIERMANN"; for all goods (3 and 48). By W. Liermann, 1 Kühnauerstrasse, Dessau-Anhalt, Germany. 338,202/3.

"KOLENTOS"; for a nerve-food (3). By Edith Harrison, 11 Adam Street, Strand, London. 338,908.

"SECWAY"; for medicinal milk preparations (3). By Casein, Ltd., Sheepcote Lane, London, S.W. 339,080.

"FIROMA"; for all goods (3). By R. C. W. & H. M. P. Spence, 11a Causewayside, Edinburgh. 339,194.

"PARDINON"; for medicinal chemicals (3). By the Bayer Co., Ltd., 20 Booth Street, Manchester. 339,297.

## TRADE REPORT.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers; or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock, after which much expense may be incurred in garbling and the like. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are charged for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at the prices quoted here.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., March 7.

THE grave situation in the coal industry is responsible for a depressed feeling in commercial circles, and the fact that the railway and steamship services have been curtailed has greatly impeded business generally. This applies with equal force to American shipments from Southampton, the usual sailings of the International Marine having been cancelled this week until further notice, owing to lack of fuel. This, however, is merely an incident in the great strike, as the stoppage of factories and works is taking place up and down the country; but at the close there is a vague optimistic feeling in regard to an early settlement of the strike. In the heavy chemical trade there is a fairly active demand at the moment, especially for forward requirements, and were it not for the strike business would be satisfactory. The chief changes include an advance in alum and nitrate of soda. Ammonia sulphate is easier at several centres, and benzols are dearer. Among fine chemicals the most important change is a substantial reduction in glycerin and the continuance of the Convention as a result of the withdrawal of the notices by two important firms, which is referred to in detail elsewhere. Santonin has advanced a further 4s. 6d. per lb. Cream of tartar is 1s. better, and foreign citric acid is fractionally easier. Cocaine hyd. is 4d. per oz. cheaper in second-hands, business having been extremely dull. Morphine is listed 3d. per oz. cheaper, and opium also tends lower as the new crop outlook is more favourable. Menthol is dearer on spot, with America a buyer. Other changes include an advance in ammon. sulphocyanide, absolute alcohol, cardamom oil, and cocoa-butter. Quicksilver (seconds) is firmer. Castor, croton, and cubeb oils are cheaper. Japanese peppermint oil (c.i.f.) and dill oil are firmer. Japanese wax and refined slab-camphor have shown more activity. New Norwegian cod-liver oil is still declining on continued good fishing. Lemon oil is easier in some quarters. Bergamot is firm, and orange unchanged. The subjoined table shows the principal changes:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Alcohol (absolute)	Aloes (Cape)	Ammonia sulphate	Cocaine (see hand)
Alum	Benzols	Castor oil	Cod-liver oil
Ammon.	Buchu	Citric acid (foreign)	Colocynth
sulphocyanide	Cream of tartar	Croton oil	Glycerin
Cardamom oil	Dill oil	Cubeb oil	Honey (Jam.)
Cardamoms	Peppermint oil (Jap. c.i.f.)	Ginger (Cochin)	Morphine
Cocoa-butter	Quicksilver (seconds)	Guaiacol carb.	Opium
Croton-seed		Gum acacia	
Menthol		Hellbore	
Santonin			
Sarsaparilla (Native Jam.)			
Sodium nitrate			

### London Markets.

ACETANILIDE is offered at the easier rate of 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. net in 1-cwt. lots and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. net in 5-cwt. lots.

ALCOHOL.—Absolute has been advanced by 2d. per lb. to 3s. 10d.

ALMONDS.—A good crop is anticipated in the Avola-Syracuse districts and from Palma-Girgenti. The reports are so far favourable, the flowering being well advanced. Sweet P. and G. 1911 crop is quoted 110s. for prompt shipment, 1912 crop at 103s. for September-October shipment, current Avola 1912 at 104s. per cwt. c. and f. London.

ALUM.—The makers have advanced their prices by 2s. 6d. per ton to 6l. 5s. for lump, and to 6l. 15s. for powder.

AMMON. SULPHOCYANIDE has slightly advanced to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. net in 28-lb. jars, and to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. net in 4 and 28 lb. jars.

APIOL.—The March prices current of makers show an advance to 35s. per lb. net.

BERGAMOT OIL is unaltered at last week's quotations, 38-per-cent. esters offering at 30s. c.i.f., and lower percentages at less.

BUCKTHORN-BARK is quoted at from 15s. 6d. to 15s. 9d. per cwt. c. and f. terms.

CAMPHOR (REFINED).—In Japanese 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. slabs sales of 200 cases are reported at 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. c.i.f. for March-April shipment. In the drug-auction 55 cases Japanese refined 1-oz. tablets sold without reserve at from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. (one lot 1s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.), no discount.

CARDAMOM OIL has been advanced to 4s. 3d. per oz. owing to the sharp advance in the fruit.

CASTOR OIL.—Belgian is lower at 28l. 2s. 6d. per ton for first pressing and 27l. 15s. for April-December, barrels free, ex wharf London. Hull make is also lower, first for prompt delivery, March-June, and July-December offering at 27l. 15s. per ton delivered free on wharf London.

CHIRETTA.—The *City of Colombo* from Calcutta has brought 39 bales.

CINCHONA.—The shipments of bark from Java to Europe during February amounted to 922,000 Amst. lb., against 946,000 A. lb. in 1911. The total shipments during January-February amounted to 1,560,000 A. lb., against 2,367,000 A. lb. in 1911.

CITRIC ACID is quiet, and fractionally easier, English offering at from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., and foreign at 1s. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb.

COCAINE.—Owing to continued slack demand second-hands offer at a reduction of 4d. per oz.—viz., 8s. per oz. for hydrochloride.

COCA-BUTTER.—Dearer. At the Amsterdam auction 66 tons Van Houten's A sold at 86.91c. against 82c. last month; 37 tons B sold at 79.51c., and 56 tons other brands partly sold at 77.50c. to 77.91c.

COD-LIVER OIL.—With continued good fishing, prices have again declined, new Norwegian oil offering at from 70s. to 77s. 6d. per barrel c.i.f., according to shipper. Even at the further reduction few buyers have come forward, the small business being for immediate requirements.

Cable advices received from Norway up to March 2 give the catch and output as follows, as compared with the corresponding date of last year:

	Catch of Cod.	Livers for Raw Oil (hect.)	Yield of c.l.o. (hect.)
Lofoten, 1911 ... ..	4,600,000	489	3,653
" 1910 ... ..	2,100,000	197	1,706
Whole of Norway, 1911...	20,200,000	3,575	17,544
" " 1910...	7,400,000	2,620	5,586

Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 4 that the results of the cod-fishing are again satisfactory. To-day's report gives the following quantities:

	1910	1911	1912
Catch of cod (millions) ...	12.3	7.3	20.7
Yield of c.l.o. (h-ct.) ...	10,900	5,500	18,000
Livers for "raw" oils (hect.)	4,100	2,600	3,700

The fishing in Lofoten is now best in the eastern places, where it is more independent of the weather than in the western part of the islands. The prospects are considered

very good. On our market the tendency is again weaker. The nominal quotation for finest non-congealing Lofoten is about 78s. per barrel, but there is no business neither at this price nor at cheaper rates.

COPPER SULPHATE is unchanged at 22l. 15s. per ton for March-April, 22l. for May, and 21l. 15s. for June delivery.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firmer to the extent of 1s. per cwt., 98 per cent. powder offering at 81s., and 95 per cent. at 79s. per cwt.

CROTON OIL.—With seed rather more plentiful, prices of English expressed oil have been reduced to 4s. 6d. per lb., and quantity less.

CUMIN OIL has been reduced by 6d. per lb. to 15s. 6d., owing to cheaper raw material.

DILL OIL has been slightly advanced, owing to scarcity of East Indian seed, the value of oil distilled from that description being 11s., while that from English seed is 13s. per lb.

GLYCERIN.—On Friday last (March 1) the British refiners reduced the price of chemically pure (s.g. 1.260) by 10l. per ton, making the basis price for the home trade in 10-cwt. drums 85l. per ton in five-ton lots on contract and 89l. for 56-lb. tins in cases. The following is the new scale of prices:

Form of Package.	Under 1 cwt.	1 cwt. and under 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. and under 5 cwt.	5 cwt. and under 10 cwt.	10 cwt. and under 20 cwt.	1 ton and under 5 tons.	5 tons and upwards.
In minimum deliveries of:	—	1 cwt.	1 cwt.	2 cwt.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.	5 cwt.	10 cwt.
28 lb. tins, 2, 4, or 8 tins in a case ... ..	94/6	93/6	93/-	92/-	91/6	91/-	90/6
56-lb. tins, 2 or 4 tins in a case ... ..	93/-	92/-	91/6	90/6	90/-	89/6	89/-
1-cwt. drums ... ..	—	91/-	90/6	89/6	89/-	88/6	88/-
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -cwt. " ... ..	—	—	88/6	87/6	87/-	86/6	86/-
5 cwt. " ... ..	—	—	—	87/-	86/6	86/-	85/6
10-cwt. " ... ..	—	—	—	—	86/-	85/6	85/-

From agents and dealers, limited quantities of Continental make of chemically pure in drums are quoted at 1l. to 2l. per ton below the official convention rates, and in dynamite quality business has been done at 62l.

GUAIACOL CARBONATE is offered at the slightly easier rate of 7s. 6d. per lb. net in 7-lb. lots.

HELLEBORE-ROOT.—New crop black is arriving on the Trieste market, and, as trading is dull, market has an easy undertone, 16s. 6d. per cwt. c. and f. has been paid, but for several tons slightly less would be accepted.

HEXAMETHYLENTETRAMINE shows a slight advance, agents offering at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. net, according to quantity.

GALLS are quiet, with Persian blue offering at 51s. to 52s. and green at 46s. per cwt. spot, with moderate supplies. In the drug-auctions 73 bags of first-class sea-damaged Persian blue sold at from 43s. to 44s., and third-class at 42s. to 43s.

GERANIUM OIL.—Algerian is said to be practically exhausted, guaranteed genuine being worth about 20s., and Bourbon is offered at 18s. to 18s. 6d. per lb.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—A Trieste advice reports a dull market, and although 74s. per cwt. c. and f. is the current price for open flowers, 1s. less would probably lead to business.

LAVENDER OIL.—French remains very dear, genuine Mont Blanc being worth from 14s. to 15s. per lb.

LEMON OIL.—A continued quiet market is reported, with quotations unaltered at from 6s. 4d. up to 7s. per lb. c.i.f., according to shipper.

A Palermo advice dated March 2 reports that the requirements to cover local blank sales for February delivery being now mostly covered, and exporters and consumers abroad keeping off the market, the parcels which were offered for sale met with no demand, and speculators also did not feel inclined to take up all that was offered. The consequence was that, after a few small transactions early in the week at top figures, sellers slightly reduced their prices, in spite of which business remained almost at a standstill; market is therefore easier, but the condition is nervous, as this month there are still heavy local blank



sales to cover. The position is therefore not likely to clear up before the month is over. For shipment, new crop is quoted 6s. 6½d. per lb. e.i.f.

MENTHOL is dearer, with retail sales of Kobayashi at 22s. per lb. on the spot, but holders now ask 22s. 6d. to 25s. For January-March shipment second-hand sellers quote 21s. 6d. c.i.f. In auction two cases Kobayashi brand were limited at 23s., a pocket order of 22s. having been refused.

MORPHINE.—The March list of makers shows a reduction of 3d. per oz., hydrochloride crystals offering at 13s. 9d. and powder at 13s. 7d. per oz. net. From second-hands business has been done at 13s. 4d.

OPIMUM.—It appears from letter advices that the weather in the Turkish opium-growing districts has been much more favourable of late, and the outlook for a good crop has considerably improved. Sellers have in consequence become more anxious to make progress in several directions, and there have been offers from Smyrna at 24s. per lb. e.i.f. for 11 per cent., but, as is usual on a falling market, buyers are holding off. On the spot good Turkey druggists' is nominally quoted at 27s. Tokats and Malatias are worth 28s. 6d.

A Smyrna correspondent writes on February 23 that, owing to the compact of our principal holders, agreed upon ten days ago, and renewed again this week, not to sell any opium except at specified figures, the week has passed without any business. The prices which sellers ask are Ps 265, or 28s. 9d., for selected old Karahissar and Yerlis, and Ps.250 (27s.) for new similar qualities. Lower-grade qualities can be secured at from 15s. to 25s. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 1,110 cases, against 4,332 at same date last year.

ORANGE OIL.—Sicilian is quiet, with quotations varying from 8s. 3d. to 8s. 9d. per lb. e.i.f. for *sweet*, and 8s. 4d. to 8s. 6d. for *bitter*.

PEPPERMINT OIL.—Japanese is firmer, the sales including January-March shipment, at 6s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. for Kobayashi and/or Suzuki.

QUICKSILVER is 6d. per bottle firmer in second-hands, at 8l. 6s. 6d. to 8l. 7s. first-hands being unaltered at 8l. 7s. 6d.

QUININE remains quiet at 7½d. per oz. for German from makers, 7½d. from second-hands, 7d. for Amsterdam, and 6½d. for Java. The landings in London during February were 237,184 oz., and the deliveries 86,880 oz., leaving the stock on February 29 3,960,960 oz. against 3,818,480 oz. in 1911.

SANTONIN.—The Syndicate last Monday advanced their prices by 10m. per kilo., equivalent to 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb. This now makes the minimum price in 2-cwt. lots 73s. or 73s. 3d. per lb. net.

SHELLAC is steady, with rather more demand for spot parcels, the quotation for fair T N orange being unchanged at from 61s. to 62s., and for March-April shipment T N is quoted at 61s. 6d. c.i.f. Futures are firm but irregular, the sales including March delivery at 60s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. and May at 62s. to 63s. 6d.

SODIUM NITRATE has advanced to 10s. 8½d. per cwt. for ordinary, and to 10s. 9½d. for refined. Liverpool is quoted 10s. 7½d. and 10s. 10½d. respectively.

SPICES.—At auction Cochin *ginger* was rather lower, 116 bags of washed being sold without reserve at 39s. for wormy and common shrivelled, and wormy at from 34s. to 34s. 6d. Of *chillies* 251 bags of new crop Japanese sold without reserve at from 34s. 6d. to 35s. for good red a little mixed, being rather cheaper. Of *cinnamon*, 33 bales of Ceylon unworked sold without reserve, including coarse firsts, 11d. to 1s.; coarse seconds, 8½d. to 9½d.; coarse thirds, 7d. to 8d.; and coarse fourths, 5½d. to 6d.; 11 cases of Tellicherry sold without reserve at 1s. 3d. for fair firsts, 1s. 2d. for fair seconds, and 30 bales of broken at from 11½d. to 1s., being dearer. Of *cloves*, 16 cases of picked Penang at auction were bought in at 11d. to 1s., and 100 bales Zanzibar at 5½d. Privately, spot sellers of Zanzibar quote 5½d., and to arrive little business has been done, the January-March shipment offering at 5½d., and March-May at 5½d. c.i.f. delivered weight. *Pimento* is firm privately, with sellers of March-April shipment 27s. per cwt. c.i.f. West Indian *mace* was steady at auction, 13 packages realising 2s. 7d. for fair palish, slightly mouldy, 2s. 6d. for palish, 2s. 4d. for fair reddish, and from 2s. 3d.

to 2s. 5d. for fair to good broken. Of *pepper* no supplies were offered at auction, and privately the demand is retail at 5½d. for greyish Singapore. For shipment the sales include Singapore for March-May at 5½d., also Tellicherry for April-June shipment at 51s. 9d., and Alleppi at 50s. 9d. per cwt. c.i.f. No white pepper was offered in auction, and privately fair Singapore is obtainable at 8d. per lb. The arrival market has also been quiet, sellers of Singapore for March-May shipment quoting 8d., and buyers of April-June at 8d. per lb. c.i.f. *Nutmegs* were steady at auction, 41 packages West Indian selling at 5½d. for 148 to the lb., 5½d. to 5½d. for 116 to 86, and 4½d. to 5d. for slightly wormy 138 to 121.

STAVESACK-SEED.—Finest clean is quoted from Trieste at 37s. 6d. per cwt. c. and f. terms.

TRAGACANTH.—There have been arrivals in fair quantity lately, and the assortment on offer is good. The market has, however, been dull. Firsts and seconds are quoted 15l. 10s. to 18l. 10s.; thirds, 12l. to 15l.; and fourths, 8l. to 11l. 10s. per cwt.

TURPENTINE has been declining most of the week, touching 34s. 6d. per cwt. on Tuesday, but on the following day the demand was more active and American on the spot advanced from 34s. 7½d. to 34s. 9d., both these prices being paid, the market closing at 35s., the same quotation being asked for April.

WAX (JAPANESE) is firm, the sales including 200 cases for March-April shipment, at 41s. 6d. per cwt. c.i.f. In the drug-auction 21 cases of sea-damaged sold without reserve at 40s. per cwt.

### London Drug-auctions.

The heavy supplies of first-and second-hand drugs offered to-day met with fair demand, considering the state of private trade and the condition of the country. Cape aloes sold at an advance of fully 1s. per cwt., but Curaçao in gourds sold cheaply. Asafetida has been dealt in privately, and at auction rather easier rates were accepted for a few of the better lots. Buchu sold at firmer rates. Ceylon and Indian cardamoms realised an average advance of 2d. to 3d. on previous auction rates, but seed was easier inclined. Japanese refined camphor was parted with cheaply without reserve, and some good Turkey colocynth-apple also sold at a low figure, as also did pulp. Croton-seed brought extreme prices. Dragon's-blood is neglected, and for Siam gamboge there has been a better demand privately. Kordofan gum acacia sold cheaply without reserve. Jamaica honey was neglected, and prices declined quite 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Ipecacuanha was steady, the feature being the ready sale of thirty-nine bales East Indian. Myrrh is unaltered, and for rhubarb there was no demand whatever. Grey Jamaica sarsaparilla sold at fully previous prices, and for native Jamaica an advance of 2d. to 3d. was paid for the better qualities: Lima-Jamaica was fully steady. Only common Tinnevely senna was offered, and sold at unaltered rates. Beeswax was quiet, Abyssinian being firm. The following table shows the quantities offered and sold:

	Off-red	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite (Jap.)	15	5	Civet (hrns.)	5	0
Albume (hen)	5	0	Cloves	3	3
Almonds	50	50	Coca-leaves	74	0
Aloes, Cape	66	62	Colocynth and pulp	36	17
Curaçao (gourds)	292	292	Croton-seed	31	0
do, (bxs.)	50	10	Cubebs	111	0
Socotrine (kegs)	40	0	Cuttlefish-bone	100	20
Zanzibar	8	0	Divi-divi	0	0
Ammoniacum	67	*14	Dragon's-blood	31	1
Anise, star	18	0	Egg yolk	5	5
Anise	60	0	Ergot	11	0
Areca	10	10	Eucalyptus oil	34	0
Asafetida	221	32	Fennel-seed	258	8
Balsam tolu	7	0	Galls	73	0
Benzoil			Gamboge	16	0
Palembang	15	8	Guaiaicum	1	0
Siam	3	0	Gum acacia	186	41
Sumatra	88	7	Honey—		
Buchu	39	15	Calif	100	0
Calumba	197	20	N.Z.	60	0
Camphor (Jap. ref.)	55	55	W.I.	17	16
Canella alba	17	0	Jamaica	94	52
Cannabis indica	48	0	Irish Moss	10	0
Cardamoms & seed	142	85	Ipecacuanha—		
Cascara sagrada	72	72	Cartagena	6	0
Cascarilla	26	0	E. Ind.	39	39
Cashew-nuts	90	16	Matto Grosso	10	3
Castorum (tin)	1	0	Minas	7	0
Cinnamon oil	2	0	Jalap	22	0

\* Sold privately.

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Kola .....	3	0	Senega .....	1	0
Lime oil .....	18	8	Senna and pods—		
Lemongrass oil ...	7	0	Alexandrian ...	49	10
Liquorice-root .....	25	0	Tinnevely .....	124	59
Meuthol .....	2	0	Soy .....	5	0
Musk (tins) .....	3	0	Squill .....	21	0
Myrrh .....	92	24	Sticklac .....	33	0
Orange-peel .....	29	13	Tamarinds (E.I.) ..	105	0
Palmarosa oil .....	2	2	Tonka-beans (Para) ..	3	0
Pareira brava .....	38	0	Tagacanth .....	203	208
Peppermint oil ...	3	0	Turmeric .....	286	0
Quince-seed .....	12	0	Wax (bees)—		
Rhubarb (China)...	38	3	Abyssinian .....	76	50
Rose Petals .....	10	0	China .....	10	0
Salep .....	1	0	East Indian .....	98	0
Sarsaparilla—			Mozambique .....	10	0
Grey Jam .....	11	9	Spanish .....	20	0
Lima .....	8	8	West Indian .....	2	2
Native Jam .....	15	15	Wax, Japan .....	21	21
Seedlac .....	130	0			

**ACONITE.**—Five bags badly sea-damaged Japanese sold at from 17s. to 25s. per cwt., the value of sound, of which 10 bags offered, being 35s.

**ALOES.**—Cape aloes was fully 1s. per cwt. dearer, especially the medium and lower qualities; 62 cases, including Mossel Bay (usual 20 per cent. tares), sold as follows: Fair hard bright firsts, 33s. 6d. to 34s.; good seconds, 32s. 6d.; dull seconds, part slightly drossy, 30s. 6d. to 31s.; common dull, part ullaged, 29s. to 30s.; and mixed with sand, 25s. Algoa Bay (on estimated tares), dullish and slightly drossy, 28s. 6d. subject; ordinary dull seconds, 28s. subject; 28s. 6d. is to be submitted for bright ullaged. Of Curaçao aloes 292 gourds offered without reserve and sold at 47s. 6d. per cwt. for small to bold size with fair dullish liver, 42s. 6d. for dull liver, and 39s. for fair capey. Of Curaçao in boxes 10 sold at 37s. 6d. subject for dull and dark, and 35s. for black cokey; capey was held at 37s. 6d.

**AMMONIACUM.**—Thirteen cases had been sold privately. A bag of scrapings fair pale blocky quality sold at 50s. per cwt.

**ARECA.**—Ten bags of dark and husky seed sold without reserve at 12s. 6d. per cwt.

**ASAFOETIDA.**—About 30 cases of Persian Gulf were disposed of, including medium and dark block, part loose almondy, at 7l. per cwt. subject: fair part dark and loose at 6l. 15s.; broken almondy block, stoney, wet, and sandy, 5l. 10s.; very soft pasty mass and liquid, 80s. to 100s. per cwt.

**BALSAM TOLU.**—For small round tins with hard balsam of fair flavour 2s. 6d. was wanted, and for large tins slightly softish 1s. 11d. was asked.

**BENZOIN.**—Quiet. Eight cases of Palenbang thirds sold at 65s. per cwt. Of Siam three cases offered, and for the finest lots the limit was 37l. per cwt. for small to bold free palish almonds of good flavour, and 34l. 10s. for not quite so bold. Of Sumatra seven cases sold at from 5l. 15s. to 5l. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary thirds, rather false packed.

**BUCHU** was firmer. A bale of fine green round, slightly stalky, sold at 4s. 8d. (as compared with 4s. 6d. a fortnight ago), and for fair green, slightly stalky, 4s. 6d. was paid for two bales. Of ovals four bales changed hands at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. for slightly stalky greenish, and 1s. 7d. for ditto with chopped stems; a further bale of yellow stalky ovals realised 1s. Four bales offered without reserve, and sold at 3d. for "klip" mixed with ovals. For three bags of false longs (*Empleurum serrulatum*) there was no bidding. The *Kildonan Castle* has brought 54 packages, the bulk of which are in transit for New York.

**CALUMBA.**—Ten bags of small to bold good yellow sorts sold at 25s. per cwt.

**CARDAMOMS** met with an improved demand, a better selection being on offer. Prices on an average were fully 2d. to 3d. higher as compared with the previous auction, but seed was easier. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore, extra bold good pale, 4s. 1d. to 4s. 4d.; good bold pale, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; small and medium good

pale, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 5d.; brown and split, 2s. 10d. to 2s. 11d. Indian (from Tuticorin, 10 cases), extra bold long pale, 4s. 2d.; bold and medium pale, long, 4s. to 4s. 1d.; small and medium do., 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d. Ceylon-Malabar, small and medium brown, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.; brownish Alleppy character, 2s. 7d.; seed, grey, 3s. to 3s. 1d., and fair 3s. 3d. to 3s. 4d. A bid of 2s. 1d. is to be made for six cases medium and bold Native wild Ceylon, and in another instance a case sold at 2s.

**CASCARA SAGRADA.**—A lot of 72 bags fair sold without reserve at from 36s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

**CASHEW-NUTS.**—Sixteen cases of fair clean sold without reserve at 45s. per cwt.

**COLOCYNTH** sold at rather cheaper prices, six cases of nice pale small to bold Turkey apple without loose seed selling at from 6d. to 6½d. per lb. Seven bales sea and country-damaged pulped sold on underwriters' account at from 1d. to 3¼d. per lb.

**CROTON-SEED** sold at much higher prices, 11 bags of dullish East Indian realising 76s., and five bags of fair bright Ceylon also sold at 76s. per cwt.

**CUTTLE FISH-BONE.**—Fair bold pale E.I. was held at 2d., and 20 bales of small broken pale and sweepings sold without reserve at 1d. per lb.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—Slow. Fourteen cases of good reboiled Singapore lump, slightly mixed with inferior, were limited at 11l. 10s., and for 11 cases *Reed 9l.* was wanted. A single case of dull bag-shaped lump sold at 7l.

**EGG YOLK.**—Five cases of dry Hankow sold at 8d. per lb. subject to approval.

**EUCALYPTUS OIL.**—Ten cases of brown (47 to 48 per cent. eucalyptol) were limited at 10½d. per lb. and 67 per cent. (14 cases) were bought in at 1s. 2d.

**FENNEL-SEED.**—Eight bags of ordinary Persian sold without reserve at 18s. per cwt. net and gross for net.

**GUM ACACIA.**—A lot of 36 bags good pale picked soft Kordofan gum sold cheaply without reserve at from 51s. to 52s., and four bags yellowish realised 46s. per cwt.

**HONEY.**—Jamaica was about 2s. per cwt. lower; fair-pasty slightly brownish in barrels sold at 33s., brown set and setting 31s. (ullaged 27s. to 28s.), dark setting brown 27s. to 28s. 6d. Thirteen cases dark liquid St. Lucia sold at 28s., and three casks dark liquid St. Thomas realised 25s. yellow Californian set and setting was bought in at 42s. 6d., and for yellow set New Zealand the limit was 30s. to 30s. 6d. Two cases of yellow-set New Zealand sold at 31s. per cwt. without reserve.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Steady. The new lot of 39 bales East Indian which arrived last week sold readily at from 8s. 4d. to 8s. 6d. per lb. (one lot 8s. 7d.), as compared with 7s. 9d. to 9s. paid at the previous sale on November 30. The parcel on this occasion was of uniform quality, and had been shipped in good condition, being free from the grey mould or weather-damage which characterised the previous parcel. Matto Grosso was steady, a bale of rather leanish selling at 9s.; fair also brought 9s., and sea-damaged 8s. 7d. Three bales fair Cartagena were bought in at 8s. 3d., and three cases were held at 7s. 6d. Privately the cheap lots of Cartagena recently offered from Hamburg have now been disposed of, and up to 7s. 4d. c.i.f. is said to have been paid.

**IRISH MOSS.**—The value placed on 10 bales was from 25s. to 27s. 6d. per cwt. net and gross for net.

**JALAP.**—Six bags of fair Tampico character, analysing 17.9 per cent. resin, were bought in at 1s. 9d., and five bags Vera Cruz (9.44 per cent.) were bought in at 1s. 2d.

**KOLA.**—Three bags of nice bright dried West Indian mostly halves were bought in at 4½d. per lb.

**LIME OIL.**—Eight cases good hand-pressed Dominica sold at from 6s. 9d. to 6s. 11d. per lb.

**MUSK.**—Three tins of old-fashioned, thick-skinned, slightly damp pods were bought in at 55s. per oz.

**MYRRH.**—Steady; 24 bags of small palish Somali sorts, slightly blocky, sold at 50s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt. The *Nigaristan* has brought 115 packages from Aden.

**ORANGE-PEEL.**—Thirteen cases of ordinary gelatin strip-shipped from Marseilles sold at 8d. per lb. The parcel



in question was said to consist of mixed sweet and bitter peel. The private value of fair Tripoli strip is 1s. per lb.

**RHUBARB** was neglected, there being practically no public business. For small and trimming root, wild Shensi, slightly stalky, with three-quarters fair pinky fracture, 1s. 7d. was wanted. Good medium and bold flat high-dried was held at 9½d., and small to bold ditto, with half fair and half dark fracture, at 9d. per lb. A case of bold round orange-coated Shensi, slightly wormy, with half fair fracture, half dull and dark, sold at 1s. 3d. per lb. subject.

**SARSAPARILLA**.—Grey Jamaica was fully firm, eight bales selling at 2s. 3d. per lb. for both fair, slightly coarse and very coarse. Native Jamaica was 2d. to 3d. dearer for the finest lots, good red and pinky selling at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d., fair red at 1s. 2d., red and yellow mixed at 11d., and very dull pale red and yellow mixed at from 8½d. to 9d. per lb.; altogether 15 bales changed hands. Lima Jamaica, of which nine bales offered, sold at fully previous prices, from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. being paid for rather coarse and chumpy.

**SENNA**.—The offerings of Tinnevely consisted of small common to ordinary yellowish, mostly sea-damaged leaf, which sold at from 1d. to 1½d. per lb. (one lot 1¾d.). Medium greenish sold at 2½d., and bold greenish at 3½d.; two bales fine green bold, slightly damaged, realised 5d. Five bales of good Alexandrian siftings sold at 3d.; fair broken leaf was bought in at 4d., and for whole green leaf 7½d. was wanted.

**WAX (BEES')**.—Quict. Abyssinian was firm, 50 bales fair yellow block selling at 7l. 2s. 6d. per cwt. Two cases fair West Indian realised 7l. 12s. 6d.

#### Cablegram.

**BERGEN, March 6.**—The Norwegian cod-fishing continues satisfactory, and the market for medicinal oil is weak and lower at 75s. per barrel c.i.f. terms.

#### Board of Trade Returns.

February imports were valued at 59,719,722l., compared with 56,071,259l. in February 1911; exports at 37,490,329l., compared with 35,653,120l.; and re-exports at 10,724,619l., compared with 9,994,156l. The imports of chemicals, drugs, and dyes were valued at 915,178l., an increase of 51,588l., while the exports of British manufactures in the same class amounted to 1,846,517l., being an increase of 133,723l. over February 1911, besides 121,769l. of re-exports, which also is an increase of 29,830l.

#### Linseed Oil.

The following tabulated figures, covering the last six years and showing the extraordinary variations in the home output from year to year, are interesting in comparison with the extreme prices recorded in each year. How the progress of consumption has been affected by the abnormally high prices can be gathered from the figures, which are as follows:

LINSEED OIL	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911
Home output ...	95,347	124,179	127,356	101,079	78,689	81,113
Imports ...	18,564	12,307	9,931	21,621	38,463	29,228
Total tons ...	113,911	136,486	137,287	122,700	117,152	110,741
Exports ...	24,847	23,657	22,761	22,539	25,242	25,881
Available for home consumption ...	89,064	112,829	114,526	100,161	91,910	83,460
Spot price, London per ton:						
Lowest ...	£ 19 0	£ 21 5	£ 20 15	£ 20 10	£ 31 10	£ 33 10
Highest ...	£ 23 5	£ 28 0	£ 24 0	£ 32 0	£ 46 5	£ 51 10

It will be seen that, owing to the very high prices ruling since 1909, the home consumption of linseed oil has contracted considerably. This consumption, which amounted to 114,526 tons in 1908, gradually declined to 83,460 tons in 1911. The output of home crushers until 1910 was mostly in excess of domestic requirements (thus leaving a surplus for export), but after reaching 127,356 tons in 1908 it has dwindled each following year to 81,113 tons for the past year. Considerably larger quantities have had thus to be imported from the Continent to cover home requirements. Prices are still too high to encourage consumers to purchase beyond urgent needs. Meanwhile substitutes are being used, especially soya oil, which is being mixed with linseed oil by paint and varnish manufacturers. The market has in months

past fluctuated sharply, as well as raw material, and the outlook is still unsettled. Frequent ups and downs are likely to continue the rule until the extent of future supplies can be more approximately gauged, especially as regards the Argentine exportable surplus. The latter will not, it is inferred, be quite so reduced as was expected some weeks ago. The surplus is now estimated officially at about 550,000 tons for this season, or at a little more than last year, after having been placed as high as 1,000,000 tons when the condition of the crop was at its best, prior to the severe damage wrought by the persistent excessive rains before and during the harvest. Quality, too, has very seriously suffered. In consequence of this, the hopes of the crushing industry as to a gradual adjustment of prices for raw material, to enable crushers to secure a reasonable working margin, have not been realised, which is the more regrettable in view of the trying times which have confronted the industry for practically two years. True, linseed-oil prices have been fabulously high, but the rise in raw material was proportionately greater. The recent weakness is not surprising, in view of the beginning of much freer shipments from the River Plate since the termination of the railway strike. Supplies in the near future should be considerably on the increase, and another subduing factor is the excellent prospect of the Indian crop, whose weight will probably play an important part in the market later. The situation so far this year has already eased appreciably, thanks to the unexpected quite large shipments from Russia, but a few weeks will yet elapse ere important quantities of Plate seed are available for crushers.

#### Manchester Chemical Market.

March 5.

The shadow of the coal strike is over the Lancashire area of chemical production, but so far the demand has been very little affected thereby. There is an evident desire to cover forward requirements, and there has consequently been a more active demand than was the case a week or ten days ago. Bleaching-powder is quoted 4l. 15s. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton, forward, in casks on rails at works, and it is reported that contracts are being made at 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d. per ton, also forward, in casks, at makers' works. Caustic soda has also sold well, and 76 to 77 per cent. is quoted 10l. 7s. 6d. to 10l. 12s. 6d.; 70 to 72 per cent., 9l. 12s. 6d. to 9l. 17s. 6d.; and 60 to 62 per cent., 8l. 12s. 6d. to 8l. 17s. 6d. per ton on rails. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., ranges from 4l. to 4l. 5s. per ton, in bags, on rails. Soda-crystals are unchanged at 42s. 6d. per ton, with bicarbonate ranging from 5l. to 5l. 10s. per ton at works. Salts in better demand at 42s. 6d. per ton in bulk at works. Sulphate of copper remains firm, and for March-April delivery may be quoted 23l. 5s. to 23l. 10s., with about 15s. per ton less forward. Sulphur is quietly steady; flowers are quoted 8l. 10s. in 2-cwt. bags; roll, 6l. 12s. 6d. 3-cwt. barrels; rock, 5l. 5s. per ton in 3-cwt. bags; and recovered, 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 17s. 6d. in bulk, all on rails at works. Borax quiet. White powdered arsenic is in fair inquiry, and may be quoted 11l. 10s. to 11l. 15s. per ton, delivered Manchester. Murate of ammonia is dearer, grey being quoted 26l. 10s., makers' works. Acetate of lime is very firm, American grey being quoted 11l. 10s. and brown 7l. 10s. per ton c.i.f. Glycerin is weaker. Crude, dynamite, and chemically pure quoted 42l., 65l., and 85l. per ton respectively. Coal-tar products are a shade quieter, owing to uncertainty attending deliveries; but sulphate of ammonia is firm at 14l. 5s. to 14l. 7s. 6d., free on rails, Manchester.

#### Heavy Chemicals.

The general tone of the heavy-chemical market is steady, and business all round has been good. The volume of inquiries both for main and miscellaneous products prove the existence of a brisk demand to fill requirements, and were it not for the coal strike the position of affairs would be satisfactory. At the time of writing the trouble is not that manufacturers have had to close down, owing to shortage of coal, but that the railway companies are refusing to accept traffic for delivery, at any rate, beyond their own systems. It is needless to enlarge on what this means.

**SULPHATE OF AMMONIA** is quiet, and at the present price has not been appreciably affected by the stoppage of the by-product coke-works. Present nearest values: Beckton, prompt, 25-per-cent. ammonia guaranteed, 14l. 2s. 6d.; London terms, 13l. 12s. 6d. to 13l. 15s.; Leith, 14l. 10s.; Liverpool, 14l. 10s.; and Hull, 14l. 7s. 6d.

**BENZOLS** are firmer and dearer. Present naked figures: London, 90 per cent., 10½d. to 11d., and 50 per cent., 10d.; North, 9½d. to 10d. and 9d. respectively.

**MAGNESIUM SALTS** maintain a steady tone. Sulphate, 62s. 6d. to 70s. per ton; chloride, 67s. 6d. to 70s. per ton; and carbonate, 30s. to 35s. per cwt.

**ZINC SALTS** have been active and are well maintained. Zinc-sulphate crystals, 7l. to 7l. 10s.; and zinc-chloride solution, 100° Tw., 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s. per ton.



### Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they cannot be dealt with. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects connected with the business are replied to in these columns if they are considered to be of general interest. Letters submitted for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in "The Chemist and Druggist" does not imply Editorial agreement with the opinions expressed.

#### National Insurance: Appeal for Funds.

SIR,—I am instructed by the Executive of the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee on Insurance to make an appeal through the courtesy of the columns of your paper to persons, firms, and bodies corporate engaged in the practice of pharmacy in all its branches for assistance in providing funds to carry on the work of the committee. It is not possible for me at such a critical stage in the history of pharmacy in this country to say anything that would increase the gravity with which pharmacists view the present situation with regard to the Insurance Act, or would emphasise the necessity of immediately preparing against the time when the Act shall come into force. It is proposed to set up in England, Wales, and Scotland separate National Pharmaceutical Insurance Committees, in addition to an International Committee, and the work which these committees will have to undertake will be in the interest of the whole craft, and as such should appeal to the practical sympathies of all the members of the craft. The work will entail the expenditure of a considerable sum of money, and the committee have every confidence that those for whom the work is being undertaken will not fail to make a generous response to this appeal. I should be glad to receive and acknowledge all subscriptions forwarded to me at 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. J. UGLOW WOOLCOCK, Secretary.

#### The Boots' Benefit.

SIR,—In your notes on the National Health Insurance in your issue of March 2 you were good enough to refer to a meeting of the employés of Boots Cash Chemists which was held on February 26 at Nottingham to consider the formation of an "Approved Society." I should like to point out, however, an error in your digest of Sir Jesse Boot's speech. You state:

"It was also proposed that in the case of assistants who have up till now received full pay during illness to take every case on its merits and to add a sum equal to the amount received from the Society."

The latter portion of this sentence should read: "And to add a sum to the amount received from the Society which will make the total amount equal to full salary." Sir Jesse gave as an example that "supposing a young clerk (or shop-assistant) was allowed 10s. benefit under the Act, and he had 30s. in wages, we should add 20s. per week, so that he would get his full salary, and in addition free medicine and medical advice from his Society."

Yours faithfully,

T. S. RADCLIFFE,

Nottingham.

Cashier, Boots Cash Chemists, Ltd.

#### Chemists and the Shops Act.

SIR,—I notice that several chemists' associations are discussing the new Act. In some districts where there is no general half-holiday several men favour a partial closing, say, from 1 to 6 p.m. Could you inform me through your columns whether it is possible under the Act to obtain compulsory closing for these hours? The Act states that "the shop shall be closed not later than one o'clock in the afternoon one week-day in every week," so it appears to me that we can by having a two-thirds majority obtain the full half-day or nothing. I am aware that even although closed a chemist may supply medicines, etc., and

that consequently he can add to the number of his cards in the shop by placing one in the window to the effect that, although closed, the shop is still open. It seems to me that a compulsory closing for a few hours is not worth asking for, and why not at this time emulate some of the more "independent callings," such as hairdressers, who have shown us what can be done by combination? The question of breaking bulk hitherto finding so much for discussion is now entirely superseded. Yours truly,

Hull.

J. J. SPILMAN.

[We read the Act to mean that shops have to be closed from 1 p.m. until the next morning. Our correspondent's letter suggests that the shops are to be closed "in the afternoon" only, but "1 o'clock in the afternoon" as distinguished from 1 o'clock in the morning is meant.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

SIR,—The whole of the tradesmen in this town have unanimously agreed to close their shops from 1 o'clock one day in each week. Three out of the four chemists desire to close at 1 o'clock, opening again at 7 to 8 in the evening. One of the four is holding out against this arrangement, and wants to keep open all day.

(1) Can we apply for a closing order compelling him to fall into line with the others?

(2) As he sells confectionery, tobacco, and medicine, in the event of not being able to get a compulsory order, can he still sell tobacco and confectionery, or must he signify which of the three forms his principal trade, and sell that class of goods only?

Faithfully yours,

VELOX. (92/52.)

[As there is here more than two-thirds of a majority of the chemists in favour of the provisions as to Section 2 being applied, the local authority may make the order to close all the chemists' shops. Confectionery is not an exempted business. Tobacco is, and if tobaccoists' shops are closed the order will also apply to chemists who sell tobacco. Under Section 2 (5) of the 1904 Act there is a provision as follows:

"Where several trades and businesses are carried on in the same shop and any of those trades or businesses are of such a nature that if they were the only trades or businesses carried on in the shop the closing order would not apply to the shop, the shop may be kept open after the closing hour for the purposes of those trades and businesses alone, but on such terms and under such conditions as may be specified in the order."

This applies under the 1911 Act. See also Section 5 (1) in our issue of January 13.—EDITOR, C. & D.]

#### Hexamethylenetetramine and Spirit.

SIR,—In reply to your query I used about 5 per cent. of this substance in methylated spirit. It does not burn brighter, but seems to save the spirit and so might be worth looking into experimentally. It is not only uterotrope tablets that burn brightly; the same is true of phenacetin tablets; they light with quite a pleasant flame. The residue which is left is a measure of the purity of the tablets.

Yours truly,

Dublin.

J. C. McWALTER.

#### The Local Associations' Committee Report.

SIR,—"Xrayser II." was exceedingly good last week in his reference to what he terms the "Manchester Imbroglia," and the Organisation Committee in London might ponder over his words to their advantage. Mr. Neathercoat is evidently willing to shoulder all the blame, though a great part of his letter appears to me to have emanated from Bloomsbury Square. I have no doubt he means well, but he cannot expect good results unless more tact is shown. It is useless to talk about unity, broadmindedness, advancing interests, etc., on the one hand, and wounding on the other. They are not compatible. The letter which he published is unsatisfactory from many points of view. He might explain what he means by "I wish I could say that I was unable to understand their motive"; fancy imputing motive to well-known men like Messrs. George Woolley, Bates, Blackburn, Pidd, Kemp, and Kirkby! Why not let us know all about it? Why not publish the letters that have passed between London, Manchester, and Edinburgh, so that the Manchester chemists and other interested persons may see where the blame lies? As to the meeting being successful, that is a matter of opinion. I was there, and would like to ask Mr. Neathercoat if it



was reported to him that Mr. Woolcock was unable to answer one very important question; that he was obliged to assume ignorance. Very tactful, I admit, but not satisfactory. The second letter from the officers of the Manchester Association is very definite and conclusive, and I cannot see how it is possible to reply to it unless all the correspondence is published. Surely they could not be expected to attend the meeting after their refusal to co-operate; but I don't quite see how they could *publicly* boycott a *private* meeting. If Mr. Neathercoat knew the difficulties experienced at various Associations in getting chemists together, he would think twice—yes, ten times—before riding roughshod over the heads of the most loyal ones. Evidently he is a young man in a hurry.

I am, Sir,  
A LOCAL PH.C. (98/50.)

### Subscribers' Symposium.

For questions, answers, incidents, and interchange of opinions among "C. & D." readers.

#### Shocking!

Did Angier when Zam Buk said "Those birds on the Beecham Scigels"?—*Cymro*. (74/62.)

#### Appreciations.

"I enclose you cheque for C. & D. for another year. It is only necessary to miss one week's issue for a chemist in business to realise the important part the C. & D. plays in his life."—*Glos*. (22/91.)

"I cannot desist from praising your paper. The aid and information that I have from it far outrun the ten shillings for its annual subscription." So wrote a pharmacist in Syria (132/40) on January 18.

A *Singapore Pharmacist* (160/2), writing on January 24, renewing his subscription to the C. & D. for 1912, says: "The *Diary* has come safely to hand, which always finds a right-hand place on my desk. Your valuable paper, too, is looked forward to every mail, and the market reports and hints, to anyone so far away from headquarters, make it worth the money a few times over. Wishing you all success."

#### Filing Price-lists.

A recent article contained a plan for parcelling price-lists. The mass of lists that may or may not be wanted is certainly a nuisance, but I prefer the following plan for storing them. Tear the cloth covers from a number of past issues of the larger lists, such as Duncan, Flockhart & Co.'s. On the front put a penny paper-clip, and you have a handy receptacle for six to twelve of the thinner lists. Labels on the back indicate the contents, and new issues can be put in instead of old as fast as they arrive. The extemporised portfolios look tidy and can stand on a shelf with the fatter lists. All office work, writing or other, is best arranged for at the moment, unless you can keep a clerk.—*Mortar* (68/54).

#### Chemists and Fishing-tackle.

Being desirous of taking up the sale of fishing tackle, I should esteem it a favour if any of your readers would reply to the following:

(1) Would an outlay of 30s. to 2l. be sufficient to start in a small way?

(2) What stock to hold for fresh-water fishing?

(3) What is the usual profit on the goods?

—*Piscodyn*. (57/63.)

[An experienced angler and pharmacist favours us with the following reply:

An outlay of 2l. would enable you to make a beginning comfortably. We assume that you would not want to stock rods, landing-nets, and baskets just at first. The essentials for trout-fishing are artificial flies, worm tackles, and minnow tackles. The size and pattern of flies are to some extent dependent on locality. If you be not an angler yourself, get acquainted with a local practitioner of the gentle art, and his hints will be useful. Do not depend too much, however, on one-man ideas, as anglers are of diverse opinions on many of the articles of equipment.

The size of the fly most generally useful is No. I., but you must have some smaller and larger.

#### Specimen Order:

1 gross No. I. assorted patterns.

$\frac{1}{2}$  gross No. II. assorted patterns.

$\frac{1}{3}$  gross No. III. assorted patterns.

$\frac{1}{4}$  gross No. O. assorted patterns.

These on gut for "wet" fly fishing. The assortment is usually six of a kind.

For "dry" fly fishing it is well to get half-a-dozen of six different patterns and on eyed hooks; they may not sell so rapidly as the others, and flies on eyed hooks do not deteriorate by keeping. Get the spring patterns at first, and supplement these by addition of summer patterns as the season advances.

For worm fishing:

Two dozen three-hook Stewart tackle.

Two dozen two-hook Pennell tackle.

Two dozen single-hook tackle.

For minnow fishing, if this be practised in your neighbourhood:

Half-a-dozen Devon minnows—two each 1-in., 1½-in., and 1¾-in.

Half-a-dozen Chapman spinners for natural minnow.

And you must have some gut casts for fly and worm—the former 3 yds., the latter 2 yds.—two dozen of each as a beginning, and a dozen minnow traces.

The profit on flies and hook tackle is usually at least 33 per cent. On gut casts and traces a little more can be obtained. Numerous wholesale tackle manufacturers advertise in the "Fishing Gazette." Get into communication with one of them, and submit a provisional order, and they will give you prices. They all have very full catalogues of their goods. An angler of any pretensions likes good tackle, and as a rule he is prepared to pay the price of such material.]

#### A Cough-mixture Idea.

My eldest apprentice the other week propounded to me an idea of his, which he wanted to work, for advertising our cough-remedy. You can get a lot of ideas from an observant youth. His plan was to have about 2,000 handbills (small) on thick paper printed with the following matter:

READY & CO., THE CHEMISTS, will give to all applicants suffering from a bad cough or bronchial affection, at their shop, Market Place, Blankston, a dose of their celebrated "Ever Ready" bronchial cure absolutely free. You will have instant relief—it's wonderful. This offer is good for one week only, January 15 to 20.

The handbills purchased and distributed, with what result? For two days six persons availed themselves of the opportunity, on the third day about thirty or forty, and for the remainder of the time we were almost inundated with applicants (no children were served), who were also informed that we sold the remedy at 7½d., 1s., and 2s. per bottle. Many of these were purchasers, and will probably be clients in the future, but sufficient was made to pay for the handbills, trouble, and a few pounds profit beside. This may be worth the trouble of a trial by some brother chemist.—*T. H. W.* (73/10).

### Dispensing Notes.

This section is for the discussion and solution of dispensing problems and prescriptions submitted by "C. & D." readers.

We are always pleased to receive the opinions of readers for publication. "The Art of Dispensing" ("C. & D." Office, 6s.) is the standard book of reference on this subject.

#### An Alkaloidal Precipitate.

SIR.—Can the following prescription be made up without precipitate; and, if so, how?

Hyd. perchlor	...	...	...	gr. iiss.
Ac. nit. hyd. dil.	...	...	...	5ss.
Quin. hydrob.	...	...	...	5iss.
Aq. ad	...	...	...	3xij.

Yours faithfully,

R. D. S. (23/12.)

[We do not think this prescription can be compounded without a precipitate. The acid solution of mercuric chloride is of the nature of an alkaloidal precipitant. To get the precipitate in a fine and diffusible condition, mix the mercuric chloride, dilute nitro-hydrochloric acid, and water; place the quinine hydrobromide in a mortar and triturate with a little of the mixture at first, gradually adding more till the whole has been introduced.]

### Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1912, pp. 435 to 454, where most legal difficulties are anticipated, before writing about your difficulty.

*Alpha* (96/3).—Your question is fully answered in our article of February 24, index folio 296.

*Quilla* (92/55).—There was no need for you to submit the queries, seeing that the law on the subject is fully explained

in the *C. & D. Diary*, p. 443, under "Exemptions" (3). Only the privileged persons mentioned enjoy the exemption.

*L. S. W.* (90/34).—You may legally demand an annual holiday from your employer, but he is not legally compelled to give you one. It is the custom in most businesses, where an annual holiday is recognised, not to give the full complement of the holiday until a year's service has been put in.

*Companies* (90/1).—It is not necessary for the name of the manager of a limited company to be printed on the poison-labels. Section 17 of the 1868 Act states that the seller, for the purposes of labelling, etc., is the person on whose behalf the sale is made, and companies have always been in the same category.

*J. F. R.* (88/33).—Practically all your questions are anticipated by one or other of our *Diary* articles, hence the brevity of the answers. (1) Yes. (2) No. Regular apprenticeship outside Great Britain is useless for the purposes of the Medicine Stamp Acts, which apply solely to Great Britain. (3) No. (4) Yes. (5) Yes. (6) Yes.

*Jct* (99/53).—The Dublin Apothecaries' Assistants' certificate has no legal status in Great Britain, but any persons having it who have been dispensing for medical men in Great Britain during the past three years have any rights they may possess reserved in the National Insurance Act. Otherwise they may continue to dispense under qualified supervision.

*F. H. R.* (94/25).—(1) You can only register such a title as "Dr. Brown's Tonic" if you display it in a peculiar manner. See *C. & D.*, February 24, index folio 297. (2) Companies may be registered with or without capital, the latter being by guarantee, but exceptional. The duty on capital is 5s. per 100l. or less on registration, and other duties are the same whatever the capital may be.

*Radix* (98/56).—The Sale of Food and Drugs Acts do not require the name of the purchaser to be stated on the summons. (See *C. & D. Diary*, p. 445.) It is the name of the prosecutor that is required in accordance with Section 19 (2) of the 1899 Act:

"In any prosecution under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts the summons shall state particulars of the offence or offences alleged, and also the name of the prosecutor, and shall not be made returnable in less time than fourteen days from the day on which it is served, and there must be served therewith a copy of any analyst's certificate obtained on behalf of the prosecutor."

The statement which you quote from a contemporary is therefore erroneous.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We do not as a rule repeat information which has been given in this section during the past twelve months, as it occupies space which can be more profitably utilised for other information. In such cases the numbers are mentioned, and if querists cannot refer to these they may obtain the numbers from the "*C. & D.*" Office at the published prices, usually 6d.

We do not undertake to analyse and report upon proprietary articles, and when samples are sent particulars should be supplied to us as to their origin, what they are, what they are used for and how.

*W. S. D.* (71/60).—ONE-SOLUTION MARKING-INK.—The marking-ink in one solution which does not require subsequent heating is generally an aniline ink. A formula is given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," but it is too long to quote here. The following is a simpler recipe for an ink which, we are told, does not spread in using, and is unaffected by light or chemicals:

Asphalt, in pieces ...	...	...	5ij.
Benzol ...	...	...	5viij.
Coal-tar ...	...	...	5viij.

Dissolve the asphalt in the benzol and add the coal-tar. The ink is thinned with turpentine if necessary, and must be kept well corked.

*A. A.* (53/12).—(1) HAIR-CURLER.—The liquid preparations used for curling the hair depend upon the presence of alkalies. A good recipe is given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," the following being a variation:

Sodium carbonate ...	...	...	gr. LXXX.
Ammonia solution (.880°) ...	...	...	℥XL.
Mucilage of acacia ...	...	...	5ss.
Clove oil ...	...	...	℥j.
Rose-water to make ...	...	...	5x.

(2) The National Insurance Act does not alter the law as to dispensing by unqualified persons supervised by a qualified

man. (3) NEURALGIA-MIXTURE.—For a good general mixture the following may be recommended:

Ammon. chlor. ...	...	...	3j. 3j.
Quin. sulph. ...	...	...	gr. xlvij.
Ac. hydrochlor. dil. ...	...	...	3j.
Sp. chlorof. ...	...	...	3iss.
Tinct. cardam. co. ...	...	...	3ij.
Tinct. aconiti ...	...	...	3iij.
Aq. destill. ad ...	...	...	3xxxvj.

M.S.A. Dose: One tablespoonful every four hours until relieved.

*G. C.* (79/46).—The material employed in the manufacture of the handles of fancy tooth-brushes is galalith or syrolit. The latter is the newer substance, but in both the casein of milk is the basis. See *C. & D.*, July 8, 1911, index folio 60, for a note on syrolit.

*W. P.* (32/6).—ANATOMY OF THE FACE.—For the purpose of obtaining a knowledge of the muscles of the face for practising facial massage, we think you will find most useful the anatomical books used by artists. The following include the facial muscles within their scope: Marshall's "Anatomy for Artists" (Smith, Elder, 15s.); Thomson's "Anatomy for Art Students" (Clarendon Press, 6s.); Sparkes' "Manual of Artistic Anatomy" (Baillière, Tindall, 7s. 6d.).

*J. M. J.* (63/94).—DENTAL LOCAL ANÆSTHETIC.—You may prepare a dental anæsthetic containing the ingredients and in the proportions you name—that is:

Eucaine lactate ...	...	...	4½ gr.
Suprarenin (synthetic) solution ...	...	...	20 minims
Chloretone ...	...	...	2½ gr.
Sodium chloride ...	...	...	4 gr.
Distilled water to ...	...	...	1 oz.

This can be boiled without decomposing the eucaine or the suprarenin, but the chloretone would be volatilised. Instead of chloretone an equal quantity of carbolic acid would do quite well. There is no advantage in adding the odorous principles you mention. Cocaine may be substituted for eucaine, but cocaine solutions should not be boiled. With a preservative like chloretone or carbolic acid boiling is quite unnecessary. Any other local anæsthetic, such as stovaine, novocaine, alpin, etc., may be used in the above formula. You can get test-tubes and flasks of alkali-free Jena glass, but it is doubtful if this will prevent decomposition when cocaine solutions are boiled.

*A. H.* (Egypt) (95/54).—DOSE OF BELLADONNA FOR A MULE.—Our subscriber received a prescription for an electuary for tetanus in a mule containing in each dose 38 grains of extract of belladonna. He asks whether he would be justified in dispensing the prescription as written. [The average dose of ext. belladonna for a full-sized horse is 5j.-5ij., and from the hardy nature of the mule it is quite probable that the animal could stand the same dose. In warm climates the dose had better be diminished by one-half or a third, so that 38 grains is on the safe side and not likely to have any bad effects on the animal.]

## Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprinted from "*The Chemist and Druggist*," March 15, 1862.

### The United Society's Dinner.

The United Society has at last given that substantial sign of its existence looked for from a new Association—it has dined in convivial and charitable conclave at the Freemasons' Tavern. We have watched over and have helped this young Society from its beginning, and it is a source of honest satisfaction to us to read the hopeful statistics which were placed before us at this dinner. A town and country organization, representing more than twelve hundred members of the trade, and including such men as Mr. Alderman Dakin—the respected President, and Chairman of the evening—Mr. Alderman Bowker, Professor Herapath, to say nothing of the Mayor of Manchester and other distinguished mainstays of the Association, is something to feel proud of, especially when we know that it has been raised in a twelvemonth, at a cost far less than any Society of the meanest pretensions was ever raised at before. The United Society is now on its legs—something more than a sturdy infant—and if it fails to grow into a strong and useful man, the fifty thousand [*Sic*—EDITOR, 1912] English Chemists and Druggists will be alone to blame. There is nothing in the constitution of this Association which should prevent the members of the Pharmaceutical body giving it their support; and the report of the speeches given at the dinner will show the broad and liberal principles on which it is founded.





